VICTORY SPORTS SERIES

Inside Wrestling

47727 November 1975 75¢

GEORGE STEELE'S CLAIM: "BRUNO'S TIME IS UP!"

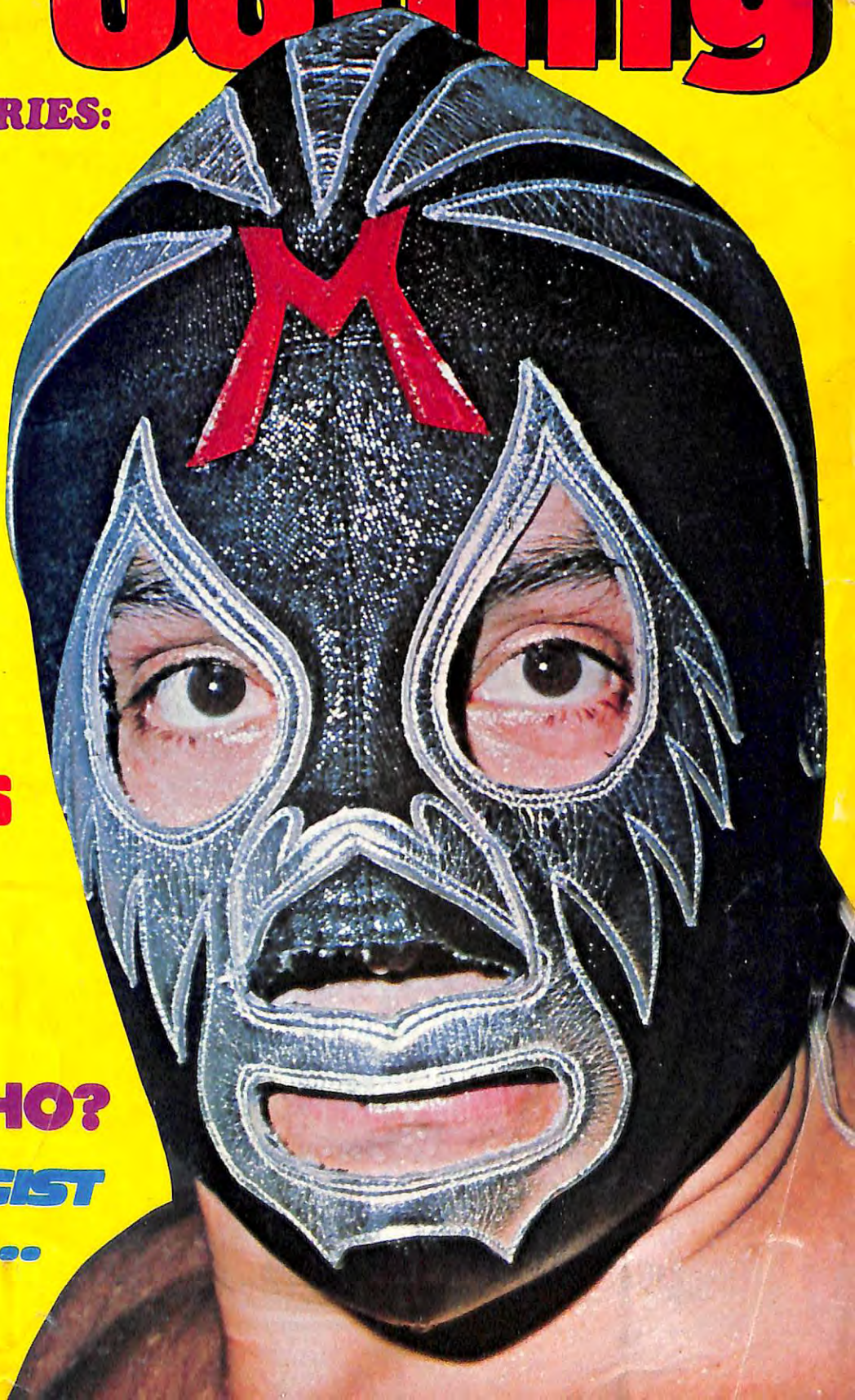
MIL MASCARAS CRIES:

"WHY CAN'T I DEFEAT IVAN KOLOFF?"

THE BATTLE ROYAL WHERE OLD FRIENDS BECAME INSTANT ENEMIES

HAS THE BLACKJACKS' CLAWHOLD FINISHED GAREA AND HO?

A PSYCHOLOGIST ANALYZES... BULLDOG BROWER



IMPOSSIBLE?

"Every successful bodybuilder has got to use the most advanced bodybuilding methods available-UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING offers the best! Using UNIVERSAL methods, I have made excellent gains!"

Brian Eastman



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WITH UNIVERSAL METHODS, YOU CAN BREAK OUT OF YOUR "OLD" SELF, AND TRANSFORM YOUR BODY INTO AN ATTENTION-GETTER!!! WE GUARANTEE TO IMPROVE YOUR BODY FAR BEYOND WHAT YOU'VE EVER BELIEVED POSSIBLE! We have perfected bodybuilding training techniques to the extreme, so that we can offer you the fastest gains possible. If you're thin and underweight, you'll be astonished at how quickly muscles appear. If you're overweight, we can help you to trim down the fat and replace it with rock-hard muscle. We'll tone up your abdominal area, and show you how to obtain a well-defined and impressive waist.

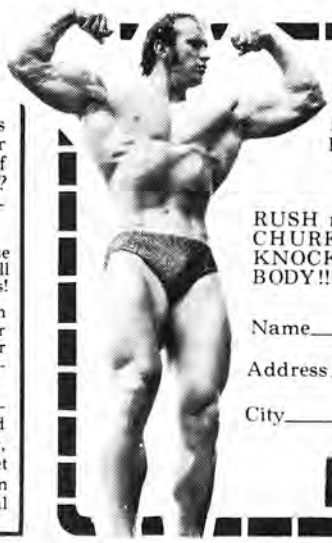
Add 2 or 3 inches to your arms, 4 or 5 inches to your chest — your rewards will be in direct proportion to your effort and accomplishments — nobody sets a limit to your success.

In the time it takes to complete this 12 lesson course, we can guarantee you a muscular foundation fantastic enough to be developed to your fullest potential!!! You can go far beyond mere "improvement" with the Advanced Training Techniques included in this course. We can give you the firm, rippling, muscular body of a physique star!!! Send in for our FREE COLORFUL BROCHURES TODAY (fantastic information about our course — loaded with unbelievable photographs). You won't regret it!!!

BE GREAT-BE SOMEBODY SPECIAL!

Improve your health, self-confidence and your outlook on life as you become more muscular. Regardless of your age, height or present build, we'll help you build a fabulous body. Thousands of people have taken this course with fantastic results — why not you? Whatever you look like today, we can improve on it. We guarantee it!!!

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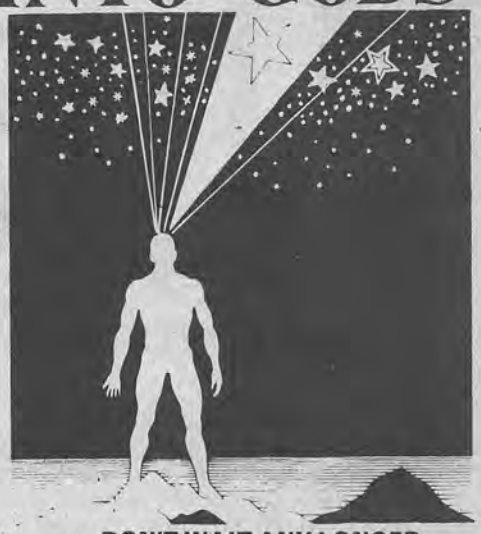
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It seems like there are only two kinds of people in life, those who hang on from one day to the next, **hoping** things will get better tomorrow, and those who seem to streak through life, successful at everything they do.

You know the type, in fact you probably have a friend who always seems to be one step ahead of you; an extra dollar in his pocket, a new car, a promotion at work, a girl, **whenever he wants one!**

SECRET TECHNIQUES OR POWER OF THE GODS?

Well, what does he know that you don't?

Throughout man's history there have been certain individuals, people great and small, famous and unknown, who have had knowledge of SECRET TECHNIQUES FOR ACHIEVING HAPPINESS.

From ancient times right up to today there have been people who, (whether they knew it or not) have been **plugged in to a fantastic reservoir of incredible mental force,** a force we now know as **SUPER SENSORY POWER!** These people are so successful at everything they do that you'd be right in asking the questions "Is it magic?", "Are they human." **"ARE THEY GODS?"!**

NOW YOU CAN USE THIS INCREDIBLE POWER—S.S.P.

Super Sensory Power has existed since mankind first began to walk upright, but it hasn't been until just recently that this incredible physio-mental force was systematically studied, and the trained eye of science was turned upon it. **NOW, finally,** all of its principles have been catagorically organized, and this most **god-like** of all human traits has been brought within your reach, making it possible for anyone who can read to experience these incredible benefits.

A professor, an S.S.P. expert of many years, an "Initiator" has finally organized and released the knowledge and force of Super Sensory Power in this remarkable break-through book, **SUPER SENSORY POWER REVEALED.**

I WAS A VICTIM

Mr. T.P. says, "I was a victim. I was exploited by people more powerful than me everywhere I went. At work my boss would always get me to do much more than my share and threaten to fire me whenever I wouldn't, and I couldn't keep a girl. Each night I would make up my mind that things would be different, but they never were. I was powerless to help myself. Then a friend of mine shared the secret of the Power Technique with me. He learned it through S.S.P. Wow, did things change quickly. I easily learned to generate all powerful "Sensor Waves" whenever I wanted them. Within a week my boss called me into his office, apologized for the way he'd been treating me, told me to take a week's vacation with pay, **and gave me a raise.** He said he must have been crazy to treat me the way he did.

And my girl? Three days after that she told me **I MADE LOVE LIKE A SUPERMAN,** and that she'd never leave me, **no matter what I did!**

SEE AMAZING CHANGES RIGHT NOW!

You can change everything right away, too! With the secret techniques easily learned from S.S.P. Revealed you can quickly learn to . . .

- **Actually prolong the length of your life!**
- **Make as much money as you need to make your life fulfilled—you will never have to do without anything you desire!**
- **Become a fountain of sexual strength. Men can learn techniques of super sexual staying power. Women can gain the confidence to achieve that ultimate of sexual pleasure.**
- **Project yourself as a bigger and more powerful person!**
- **Control smoking, overeating or compulsive drinking as you desire!**
- **Increase your capacity to concentrate and remember things —in fact you can have total recall at will!**

DON'T WAIT ANY LONGER

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You've heard the story; now it's time to act. You need no longer be shackled to a life without hope, plodding on from one day to the next, **waiting and hoping for a break.** Do something to **help yourself** and your loved ones, NOW. Make your choice for a happier, **richer** life by ordering this remarkable book, SUPER SENSORY POWER REVEALED! You can't lose with this MONEY BACK GUARANTEED NO RISK OFFER.

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Inside Wrestling

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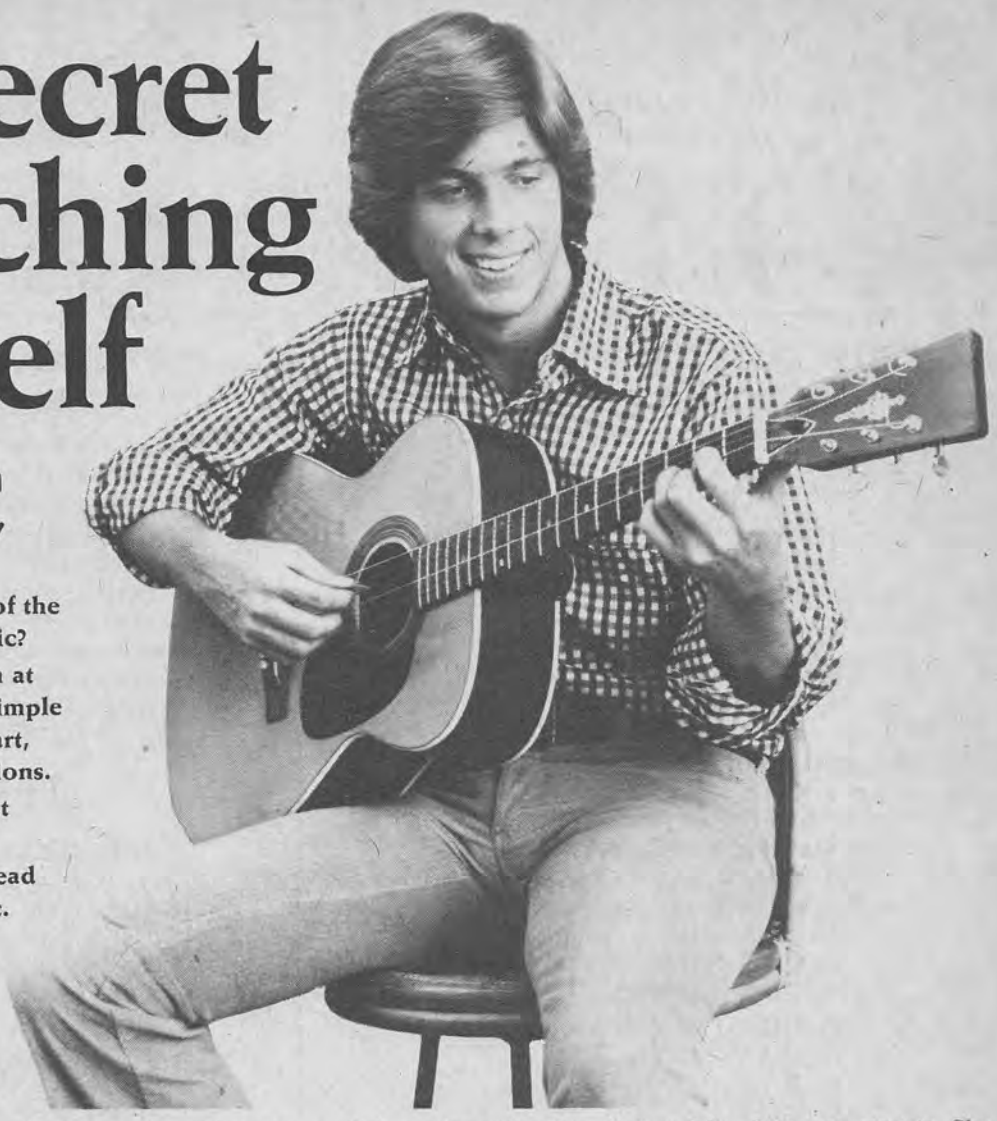
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The secret of teaching yourself music



Why keep depriving yourself of the thrill of making your own music?

Here's a pleasant way to learn at home in spare time. You play simple familiar tunes right from the start, then more advanced compositions.

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No gimmicks—you learn to read notes, play regular sheet music.

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But surprising as it seems, you need no such thing. Thousands of people just like you have taught themselves to play by using the lessons we give by mail. And you can too.

With our lessons, you learn to play the right way – by note from regular sheet music. Without any gadgetry or gimmickry. And all it costs you is just pennies a day.

You don't need any previous musical training. Our lessons start you off "from scratch" with clear word-and-picture instructions. A lot of the songs you practice first are simple tunes you've heard many times. And since you already know how these tunes are supposed to sound, you can tell immediately when you've "got them right."

Then you go on to more advanced pieces. By this time you can tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play whatever kind of music you like. Folk. Popular. Classical. Show and dance tunes. Hymns.

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Others also enjoy her playing, Mrs. Johanson reports. She plays for herself to relax after a trying day, and for her husband when he's tired. She also plays for friends when she goes to parties. "In a sentence," she says, "it's the most soul-satisfying thing that has ever happened to me."

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☐ Spinet Organ (2 keyboards)

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Mrs. _____ Age _____
Miss
PRINT NAME (17 OR OVER)

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

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CHAMPION: BRUNO SAMMARTINO
1—GEORGE STEELE
2—BUGSY MCGRAW
3—WALDO VON ERICH
4—SPIROS ARION
5—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
6—VICTOR RIVERA
7—IVAN PUTSKI
8—DR. JERRY GRAHAM
9—GORILLA MONSOON
10—FRANCISCO FLORES

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: VERNE GAGNE
1—BARON VON RASCHKE
2—BILLY ROBINSON
3—RAY STEVENS
4—IVAN PUTSKI
5—NICK BOCKWINKLE
6—HORST HOFFMAN
7—JIM VALIANT
8—JOHN VALIANT
9—GREG GAGNE
10—JIM BRUNZELL

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: MIL MASCARAS
1—BULLDOG BROWER
2—ERNIE LADD
3—IVAN KOLOFF
4—MIGHTY IGOR
5—COWBOY BOB ELLIS
6—KURT VON HESS
7—JOHNNY POWERS
8—DINO BRAVO
9—ERIC THE RED
10—TEX MCKENZIE

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: JACK BRISCO
1—SHOEHI BABA
2—HARLEY RACE
3—DORY FUNK JR.
4—PAUL JONES
5—BOB ROOP
6—THE SHEIK
7—JOHNNY VALENTINE
8—TERRY FUNK
9—JERRY LAWLER
10—JOSE LOTHARIO

TAG TEAMS

1—THE BLACKJACKS
2—NICK BOCKWINKLE & RAY STEVENS
3—THE MONGOLS
4—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
5—THE ANDERSON BROTHERS
6—CYCLONE & OMAR NEGRO
7—GOLIATH & BLACK GORDMAN
8—THE MASKED INVADERS
9—THE LOVE BROTHERS
10—DOM DENUCCI & PAT BARRETT

WOMEN

CHAMPION: FABULOUS MOOLAH
1—ANN CASEY
2—VICKI WILLIAMS
3—SUE GREEN
4—DAISY MAE
5—DOTTY DOWNS
6—DONNA CHRISTENELLO
7—LEILANA KAI
8—BELLE STARR
9—JOYCE GRABLE
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- "In complete honesty, I think it is a great exercise program . . . the best one on the market!!!!" —**Dave Fuss, IL.**
- "You just aren't another rip-off company. You back what you say." —**T Roecklein, WI.**
- "I've averaged from 2-3" on my legs, arms, and chest — I'm glad that I did invest the money."—**Richard Oxer, MT.**
- "Enclosed is my money order (for a new Powerex). I know how good it is. I had one and I lost it. I am in several sports and cannot win without Powerex. It is the greatest!" —**G Scott, Canada.**
- "Arms increased 2½", chest 3", decreased waist 2", and gained 20 lbs. — look and feel a lot better!" —**Joseph Moreno, CA.**
- "I used to be a singles man — this season I was a home run hitter, and I credit Powerex with this." —**T J, AL.**
- "The results are just FANTASTIC!" —**Richard Lynn, MN.**



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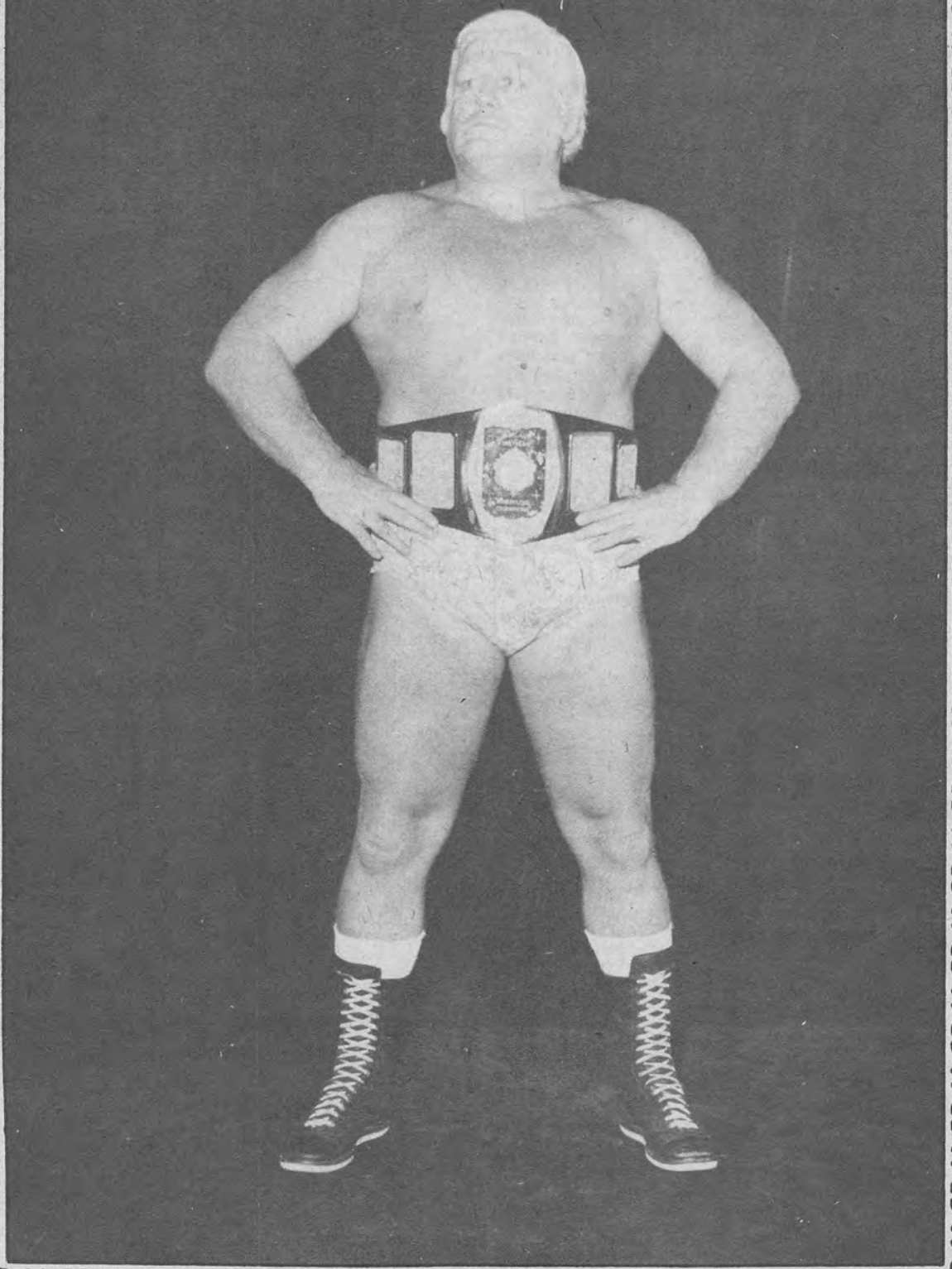
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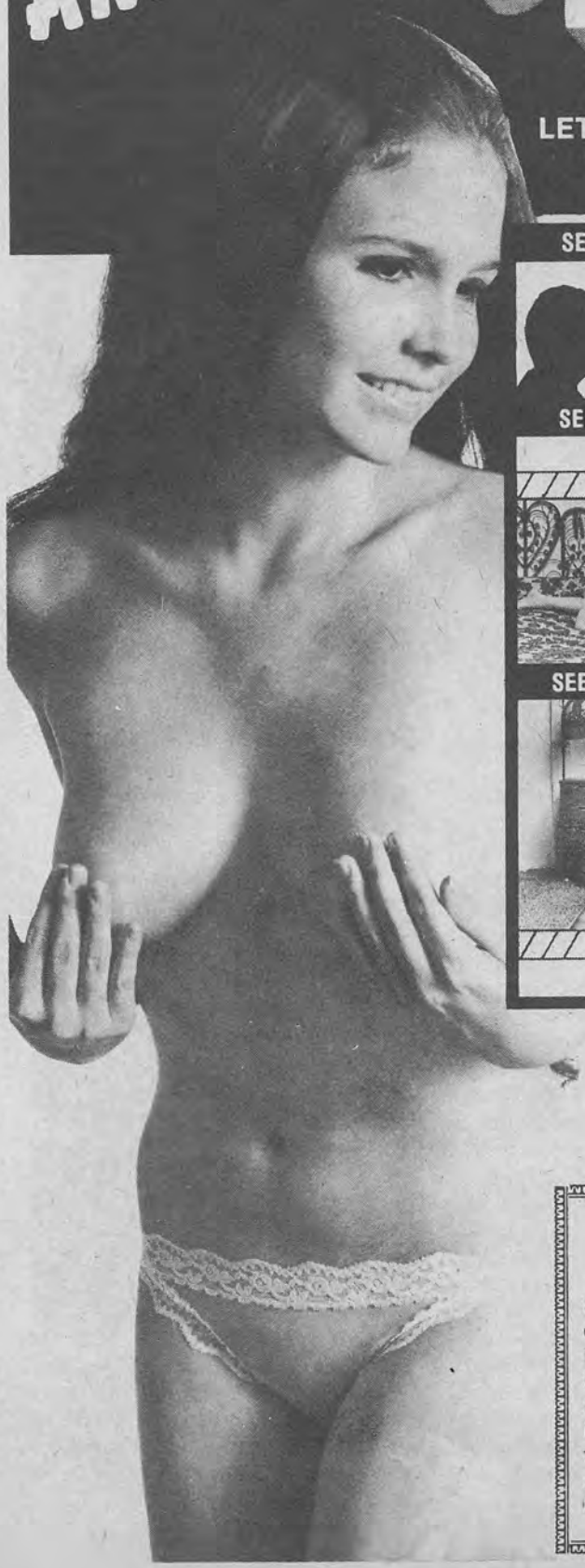
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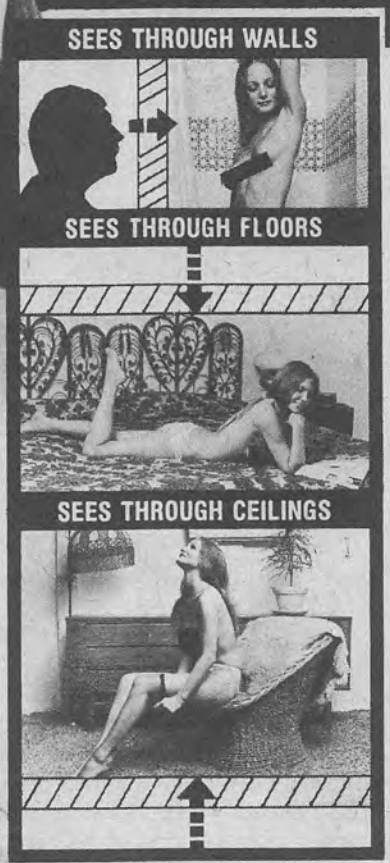


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NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS

TENNESEE REPORT
By Eddie Gilbert

PEOPLE FROM ALL over the state packed the Fairgrounds Arena in Nashville to see a fine card. Topping the show was a wild six-man tag team bout.

In that match Otto Von Heller, Karl Von Steiger, and manager Sam Bass teamed to wrestle Tommy Rich, Tojo Yamamoto, and "Crazy" Luke Graham. In addition, the bout carried a no time limit, no disqualification rule.

Von Steiger, Von Heller, and Bass worked over Tommy Rich for nearly the first 10 minutes of the bout. Finally, Tommy was able to tag Tojo.

It wasn't long before Yamamoto sent the opposition running. The Japanese mat star then tagged Graham. Then the roof fell in.

Luke had Von Steiger trapped in a full-nelson. Graham's partner, Tommy Rich, let loose a right to Otto's face. But the crafty German had ducked and the punch clipped Luke instead!

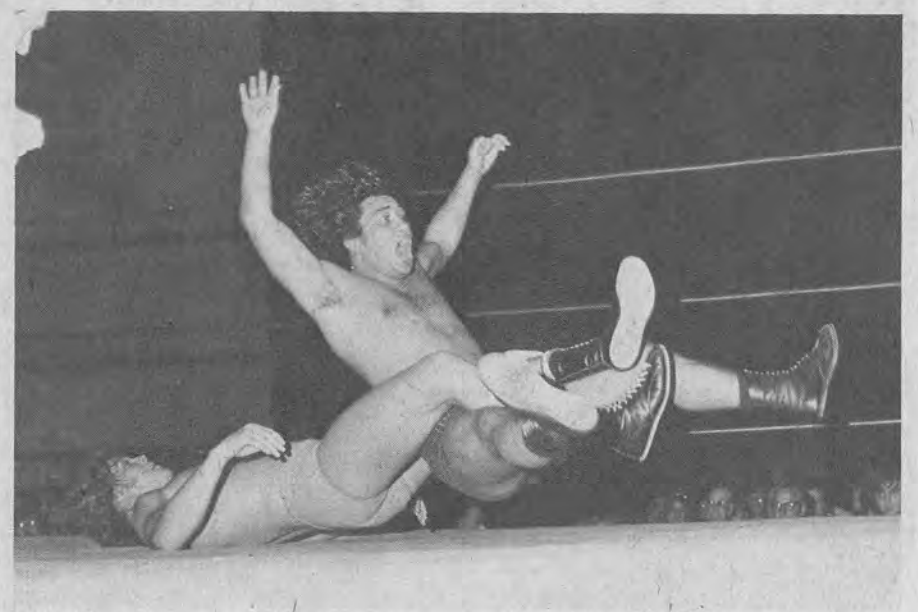
Graham picked Tommy up and bodyslammed him. Luke then placed Von Steiger on top of Rich, and the referee counted three.

The arena was quiet, as the people were shocked at the way Luke Graham had turned on partner Tommy Rich.

In other matches: The sensational tag team combination of Jimmy Golden and Robert Fuller scored an impressive win over Rocket Monroe and Randy Tyler . . . Steve Kovac whipped Bill Costello . . . Mr. Wrestling and Frank Morrell grappled to an exciting draw.

ILLINOIS ACTION
by Betty Chronister

Fans filled the Tazewell Memorial Arena in Peoria to see the legendary A.W.A. champion Verne Gagne defend his title against Baron Von Raschke.



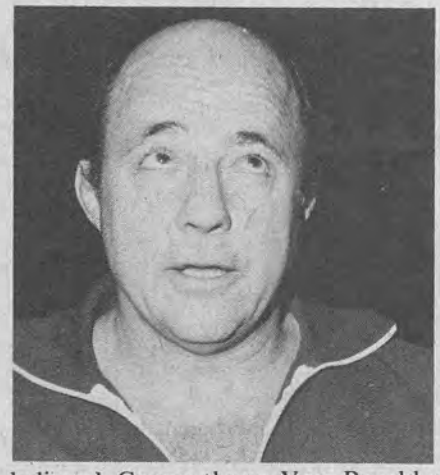
The German mat star decided he'd try to win the title by relying on his clawhold. Over and over again, he'd capture and torture Verne in this hold only to have the champion escape. And Gagne showed why he's one of the most famous wrestlers ever by employing his full repertoire of brilliant maneuvers.

As the battle wore on, Von Raschke grew more and more frustrated. However, it was also obvious Verne was weakened by the repeated punishment of the clawhold. The champion then attempted to end the match by capturing his foe in the sleeper hold. Verne was close to victory when the cunning Baron pushed backwards and slammed Gagne into the ringpost, breaking the hold.

Von Raschke, enraged, hurled Gagne into the ropes. But the German was so out of control when he rushed at the champion, all Verne had to do was sidestep and Von Raschke hurtled over the ropes from his own momentum.

The referee, however, mistakenly believed Gagne threw Von Raschke out. The official then disqualified Verne and awarded the match to Baron. Verne tried to argue, but to no avail. Gagne retained his championship, but had the match taken from him by a quirk of fate!

Above: Robert Fuller proves his skill and cunning as he traps his foe, Jerry Brisco. Below: Verne Gagne is overwhelmed by the referee's mistake which cost him a victory he earned.



(Continued on page 49)

HOW TO ROB BANKS. LEGALLY.

Make 21% On Your Money. Guaranteed No Risk By The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Earn $100,000 or more with deposits of less than $20.

By Louis Kennelworth
Attorney at Law

My name is Louis Kennelworth, and I'm a lawyer. If what I'm about to tell you were not 100% true, I'd get disbarred and probably thrown into jail. So obviously every word, every piece of advice I have put into print is absolutely true and completely legal.

In these hard times of inflation, we need all the help we can get.

The bank presidents will hate me for this. But I'm going to lay it right on the line. Whatever amount of money ($10. a week or $1,000 a week) you put into your savings account I can show you how to double, triple, even **quadruple** what it would ordinarily earn in interest. (All without risking a single penny.)

Crazy? Not at all. But that's only the beginning. Here are a couple of other amazing facts I've uncovered.

★ **Amazing fact: You can actually earn triple the amount of savings in one bank as in another. Even though both banks offer the same exact rate of interest.**

★ **Amazing fact: You can earn 6¼% interest on an ordinary passbook savings account.**

★ **Amazing fact: You can actually use your credit cards to make extra money.**

★ **Amazing fact: Your dollars can be earning interest on weekends . . . after you've already withdrawn them.**

How on Earth are these things possible? Simply by following the easy-to-understand plan I've outlined in what I believe is one of the most informative, useful money-making books ever published.

This is the book that tells it all. All the important proven financial secrets you need to stay ahead of inflation. Many of these secrets are so fantastic you won't believe they're possible until you put them into practice.

Just to give you an idea:
You can actually pay bills by check from your savings account and still earn interest on money that isn't there.

And did you know: If you know how, you can actually make more money banking by mail than you can in person?

Now in case you're worried about the banks. Please don't! Believe me they can afford it. Banks make billions with depositor's money. They make far more lending your money to commercial borrowers and mortgators than they ever pay to you, their depositors.

It's that fat cushion between what the banks get and what they pay that enables banks to offer you "inducements" such as compound interest, high rates in special issues, day-of-deposit-to-day-of withdrawal accounts, bonus days, bank gifts, and so on.

Earn $100,000 or more with deposits of less than $20.

All you have to do is know how to take advantage of these "inducements" and the fine print in banking laws (and believe me I show you how easy it is!). You can pile up a fortune – actually $100,000 or more, on what amounts to weekly deposits of less than $20. And, the beautiful part is: You're not speculating! You're not gambling! You're not risking one red cent! Because you're putting your money in the safest place in the world: An American bank. And, even if it should fail (which is almost impossible today), your savings are protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The only question that remains is: How long can you afford not to do something about it? All you need to know is **How!** And it's all right there in my book. The information, the methods and techniques, the step-by-step game plan. It's all there for you! In simple straight forward language, complete with illustrations. Easy to understand for anyone with a fifth grade education.

Powerful interests would love to "Coverup" this information.

Obviously this is a book the banks would love to prohibit. Many powerful interests would love to suppress and "coverup" this information if they could. But fortunately it's still a free country. And if there's a way you can fight inflation with much bigger returns on your savings, you're entitled to know about it.

Now at last, I've made this inside information available to you through THE INSIDER'S MAILBOX. The cost to you is only $10.00, and you don't risk a single penny of that.

NO RISK GUARANTEE. YOU CAN'T LOSE ONE PENNY.

If my book, **How To Rob Banks. Legally.,** hasn't more than paid for itself many times over in just 30 days, return it to me for a full money back refund.

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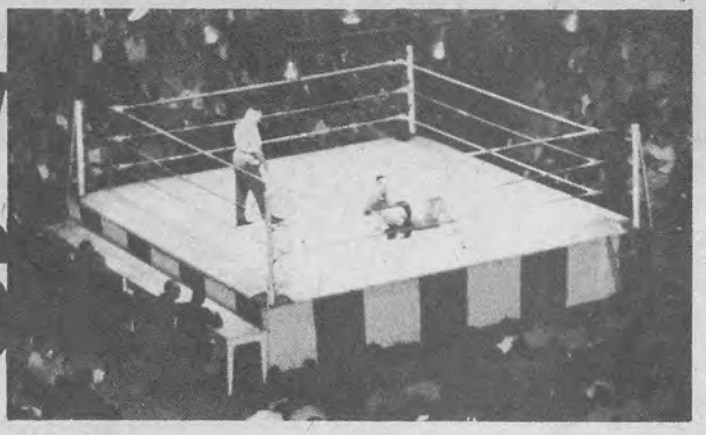
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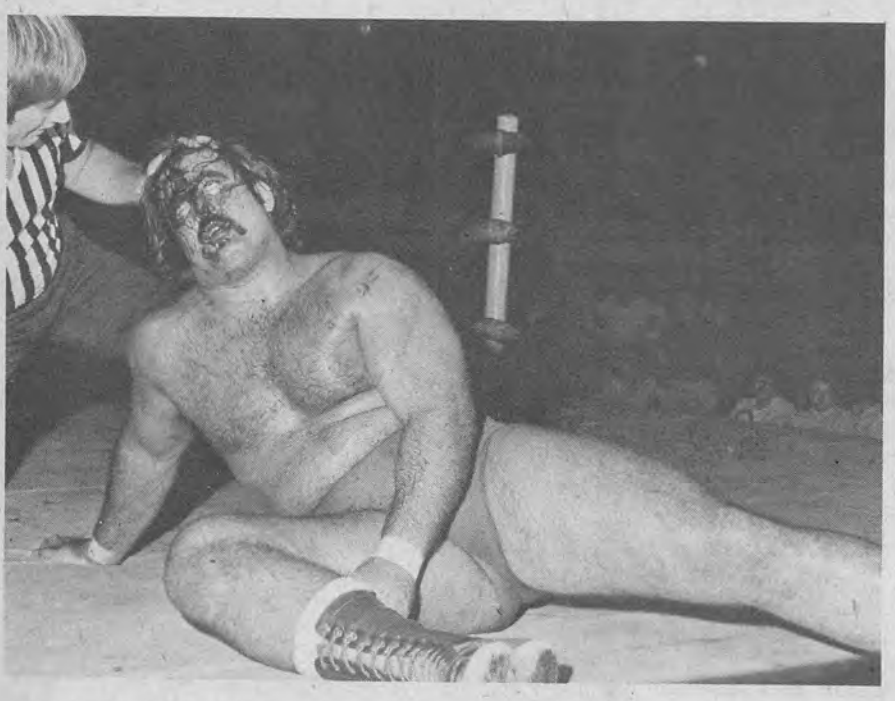
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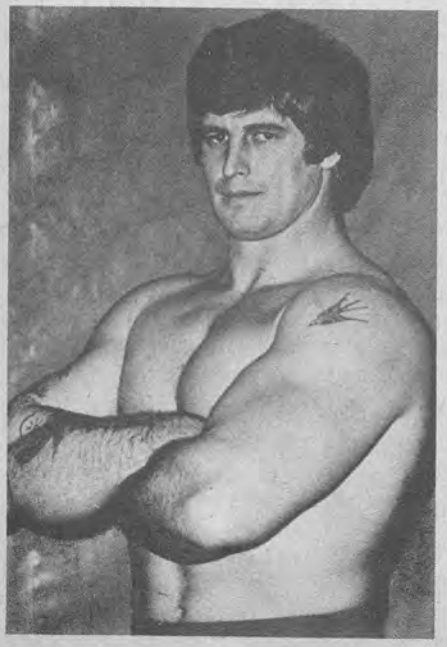
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SINCERELY YOURS





Mike McCord, who battled back from many rough encounters (above), is again engaged in a courageous comeback and his thousands of fans wish him well. Fans of Tony Garea (below) hope their hero will soon wear the W.W.W.F. world championship wrestling belt.



TITLE FOR TONY

Tony Garea is one of the most courageous wrestlers in the sport's history. His recent competitors include Spiros Arion, Professor Toru Tanaka, and other men of their ilk. Tony only battles against the best.

Tony deserves a title shot. He's a superstar. Tony Garea should be the W.W.W.F. heavyweight champion.

LARRY FEUER and
HOWIE HIRSCH
Whitestone, N.Y.

THE SPECIAL PEOPLE

I think Jim and John Valiant and Lou Albano are three very special people. They're the best thing that's happened to wrestling or, in fact, the world! The Valiants are totally superior to all other tag teams.

They'll be glorious while the heroes sweat it out. After all, guys with class and charisma can best good-time losers anyday.

Right on, "Handsome Jim" and "Luscious John!" This letter is to let you know there is one smart broad who knows what she really likes.

TINA CYR
Lewiston, Me.

THE BETTER MAN

Every time Spiros Arion loses to Bruno Sammartino, Freddie Blassie comes up with an excuse ("Blassie Demands An Investigation Of The Sammartino-Arion Match" [THE WRESTLER/July 1975]).

His statement that Bruno is afraid of Spiros and he's paid off officials and referees has been disproven because Bruno challenged, wrestled, and defeated Spiros Arion in a steel cage match in Philadelphia.

Freddie Blassie may have a legitimate complaint about Arion's defeat in New York, but there is no excuse for his defeat in Philadelphia. Maybe Blassie and Arion will shut up, although I doubt it, or at least admit Bruno is the better man.

MICHAEL LUKOMSKI
Philadelphia, Pa.

GET WELL CARD

Thank you for a beautiful story on our idol, Mr. Mike McCord ("How I Survived A Plane Crash and Why I'll Wrestle Again!" [THE WRESTLER/August 1975]).

How we hope and pray this magnificent man who has won our female adoration recovers to go back to wrestling. What a man Mike is! He's a real example to follow. Now we not only have a gorgeous body to worship as the "Sexiest Body in the World" but we have great courage to follow. Not even Billy "Superstar" Graham can match that combination.

(Continued on page 51)

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- OPEN MOUTH
- BUILT IN FEMALE ORGAN
- FRENCH AND GREEK DESIGN
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- SPONGY DETAILED BREASTS
- FLESH-LIKE BODY
- HUMAN-LIKE ACTION
- ELECTRONIC 4 WAY ACTION

DRESS HER UP — Dress her up in lingerie, bathing suit, dainty underclothes, tight fitting sheek dresses, pant outfits, mini skirts or leather. Her well rounded legs can wear any style boots or shoes, nylons or hose. Think of the fun you'll have dressing Greta the way YOU feel a woman should dress.



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- ☐ C — CUSTOM GREEK GRETA — I enclose $29.95 + .95¢ p.p. Send Greta complete with built in female organ, deep throat and Greek features and extra large breasts.
- ☐ D — ELECTRONIC GRETA — I enclose $39.95 + .95¢ p.p. Send Greta complete with All features in model C, plus remote control electronic features.
- ☐ E — ULTIMATE GRETA — I enclose $49.95 + .95¢ p.p. Send Greta with all the above features, plus electronic hands and fingers.
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ALLAN JUDAH (13)
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Shallowater, TX 79363
Likes motorcycles. Dick Murdoch his favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for PP's.



RENEE McKINNEY (14)
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Nassau, Bahamas
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MIKE BURGER (14)
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Invergrove Hts., MN 55075
Likes all sports. Ken Patera his favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for PP's.



JASON YONG (9)
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Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
Likes animals. Tony Garea his favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for PP's.



JOANN GOODWIN (18)
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Archbald, PA 18403
Likes archery. Tony Garea her favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for pen pals.



RONALD YEO (19)
82-E Blk 25 Sin Min Rd.
Singapore 20
Likes judo. Johnny Valentine his favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for pen pals.



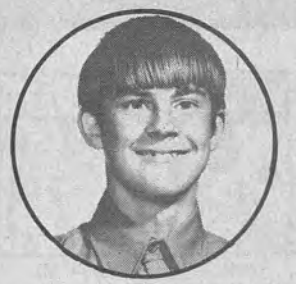
JEFF ALI (21)
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Kuantan, Pahang, West Malaysia
Enjoys coin collecting. Crusher his favorite. Likes good or bad guys. Anyone for pen pals.



DWAYNE HUGHES (13)
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Jacksonville, FL 32209
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DAVE KRAUSE (14)
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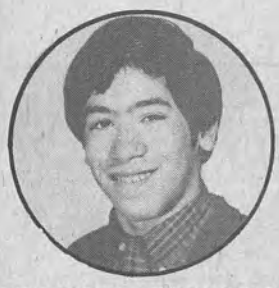
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THE ONE WOMAN WHO DOESN'T WANT MOOLAH'S TITLE

Every wrestler aspires to become world champion. For Donna Christenello, there lies the terrible choice between ambition and friendship

EVERY FRIENDSHIP DEMANDS some sacrifices. Donna Christenello's friendship with Fabulous Moolah has demanded the greatest sacrifice of all.

Being Moolah's friend has denied Donna the opportunity to reach her highest ambition—to become the woman's wrestling champion of the world, the title now held by Moolah. Because of their friendship, neither woman wishes to wrestle the other. In this situation, it's Donna who has to deny her lifetime's ambition. It's a very difficult thing to do.

"I won't pretend," she declares, "I enjoy waiting around, knowing I can never get what I've worked so long to achieve. Moolah is so great she may be champion for the next 20 years. And as her friend, I hope she is. But as a professional wrestler, it drives me up the wall.

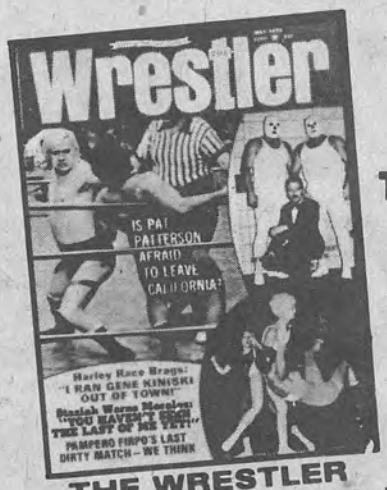
"Because I haven't asked for a championship shot, it's obvious I won't get to wrestle Moolah. She's too good a friend. Taking the championship from her would be the saddest day of my life!

(Continued on page 62)



Donna Christenello tries to stretch Debbie Johnson's head off. Yet Donna refuses to ask Fabulous Moolah for a title shot.

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PHOTOS BY DANNY GODDARD



"HOW DARE THEY GIVE THIS MAN A TITLE SHOT!"



Driven to brutality by the savage tactics of Abdullah the Butcher, Jack Brisco captures his notorious foe and tries to tear the soft flesh from Abdullah's forehead in wild action late in the battle.

THERE ARE MANY wrestlers who deserve a chance to compete for Jack Brisco's N.W.A. title. These men have sweated and sacrificed to earn the privilege of wrestling for their profession's highest honor. Many of these same grapplers are outraged about a match which allowed Abdullah the Butcher a chance to become N.W.A. king.

These men believe Abdullah's competing for a championship is an outrage and an insult. Nothing in this maniac's career has earned him the honor of competing for a title. When scientific, distinguished athletes are waiting for their opportunities, to waste a title match is a crime. These men feel the promoters have spit in their faces.

"Everyone knows," Paul Jones declares, "Abdullah wouldn't wrestle to win the championship, but to bloody Brisco. The whole idea of the

bout was incredible. When I first heard about it, I thought it was a joke. When I found out it was for real, I still thought it was a joke—only not in the least bit funny.

"Abdullah is a wildman. He doesn't like wrestling—he just loves to see guys in agony. There are a lot of men, myself included, ready to teach him a lesson. That isn't a champion's job, though.

"Brisco should meet the best men when he defends his title. He shouldn't wrestle the maniacs—guys who get disqualified almost every time they enter an arena!

"He only has a certain amount of matches. He shouldn't waste them nor should he risk being injured for months by some animal's savagery. The championship would be out of commission along with him. That's not fair to the fans or the top contenders!"

Many wrestlers echoed Jones' thoughts. The championship, they said, it a trust which a match against Abdullah violated. The commissions betrayed them. One only had to see the match, they argued, to see they were right.

The battle was one of the ugliest scenes of brutal mayhem in wrestling history. Jack came close to being permanently injured because of Abdullah's treachery. Attacked before the bell sounded. Brisco was close to being knocked unconscious. Only his great conditioning saved him from being knocked and kicked senseless immediately.

When the match officially got underway, Abdullah showed why so many wrestlers despise him. Brisco could barely defend himself against the fusillade of illegal tactics. Finally, Jack's temper exploded.

He was on Abdullah like a wolf attacking a horse. His powerful fingers clawed at the scarred flesh of Abdullah's scalp. His grunts of anger accompanied the roughest tactics ever used by Jack. His wanted to see his foe crawl in agony.

However, Abdullah is best when his enemy tries to battle illegally. No man knows better how to turn an opponent's anger against himself. Before Brisco knew what was happening, he was lying outside the ropes and being choked.

The referee tried to make the raging, bleeding Abdullah release the champion, but to no avail. Jack's gurgling told the official he was in serious trouble. In a matter of minutes, Jack Brisco could be dead.

When Abdullah the Butcher was given a shot at Jack Brisco's N.W.A. championship, many other wrestlers were shocked and enraged—even before the bout occurred!



As his fingers dig into Jack's chest and throat, Abdullah's mad rage is so great that he tries to bite through the ropes! Many are asking if this is the kind of man who deserves a title match.

Other wrestlers, including Jack's brother Jerry, saw the champion's plight and rushed to his aid. Abdullah was driven from his stricken foe and forced to flee back to the dressing

(Continued on page 60)

A PSYCHOLOGIST ANALYZES...

BULLDOG BROWER

Dr Manfred E. Wilson is a prominent psychologist as well as a fan and student of wrestling. He has found that wrestlers make excellent clinical studies. Dr. Wilson, as you might recall, authored the award-winning study of John Tolos a few years ago, after Tolos blinded Freddie Blassie. In articles written exclusively for THE WRESTLER and INSIDE WRESTLING, Dr. Wilson has analyzed some of the most controversial stars of the sport, including George Steele and Freddie Blassie. In this report Dr. Wilson draws some remarkable conclusions about one of the sport's most puzzling individuals —BULLDOG BROWER!



Perhaps no man in wrestling is as despised and feared as the unpredictable Dick "Bulldog" Brower. Renowned psychologist Dr. Manfred E. Wilson attempts to analyze the reasons behind Brower's twisted brutality

BY DR. MANFRED E. WILSON

THE INABILITY TO engage in interpersonal relations is common among those whose profession casts them in the limelight. So absorbed are they in their relationships to crowds and careers, they drive away those who wish to be close to them as human beings rather than public figures. Bulldog Brower is an example of this syndrome in its most extreme form.

Early in a public personality's career, he finds the roar of the crowd becoming like a drug to him. No single human being can equal the crowd's excitement. Many public personalities, expecially athletes, find themselves in a daze during the first experience with mass adulation. However, the period of adjustment is usually short and most learn to cope with this psychological problem.

Wrestlers, however, have an especially difficult task in this regard. Their sport tends to isolate them. They are on their own, dependent only upon themselves. This discourages interpersonal relationships. Wrestlers learn to function best when alone. It takes a great deal of work for them to develop the facility of winning friends. It takes a special person to befriend them and understand their problems.

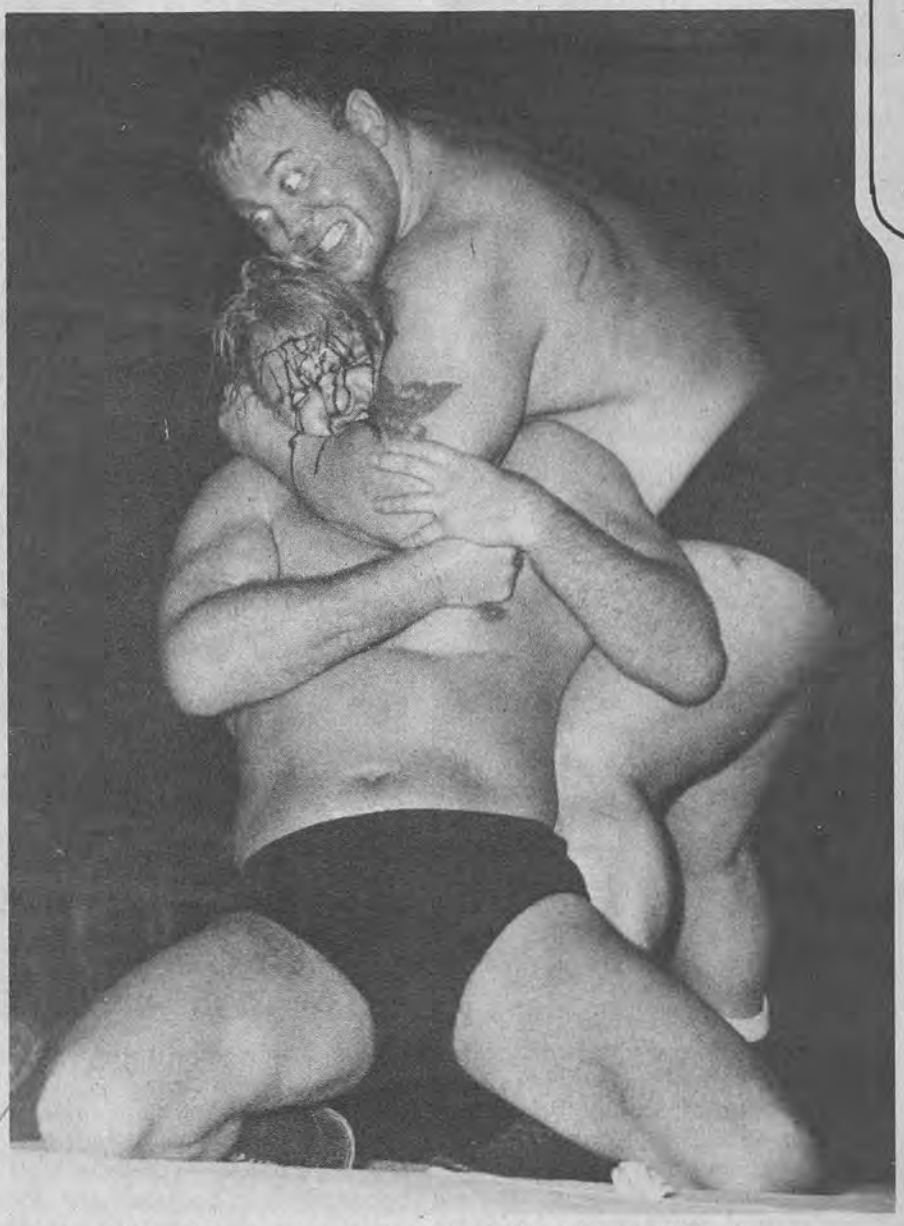
If the wrestler has unhappy interpersonal relationships, he may find the worry he experiences about them interfering with his professional life. So one part of his life, the one he is insecure about in the first place, threatens the one thing he enjoys and is confident in pursuing. He then discourages people when they try to get close to him and instead concentrates on his career.

This has obviously happened to Brower. Emotionally crippled in a few early, major experiences, he's gone out of his way to keep people at a distance. This accounts for his rampages, his insults, and the contortions he employs to distort the features of his face.

These grotesque faces he continually makes are the surest sign of his mental imbalance. The face regularly becomes the focal point for all neuroses and psychoses. The face is the most visible portion of the body. One can express all the emotions on it. Many have called the face the window of the soul.

When Brower distorts this window, he drives people away. It's a common symptom, though dangerously aggravated in Bulldog's case. Notice how many of his expressions, the eyes roll back and grow glassy. By not looking at those near him, he is psychologically negating their presence. It is a common ploy among those who wish to drive others away. It also reflects a very dangerous mental attitude.

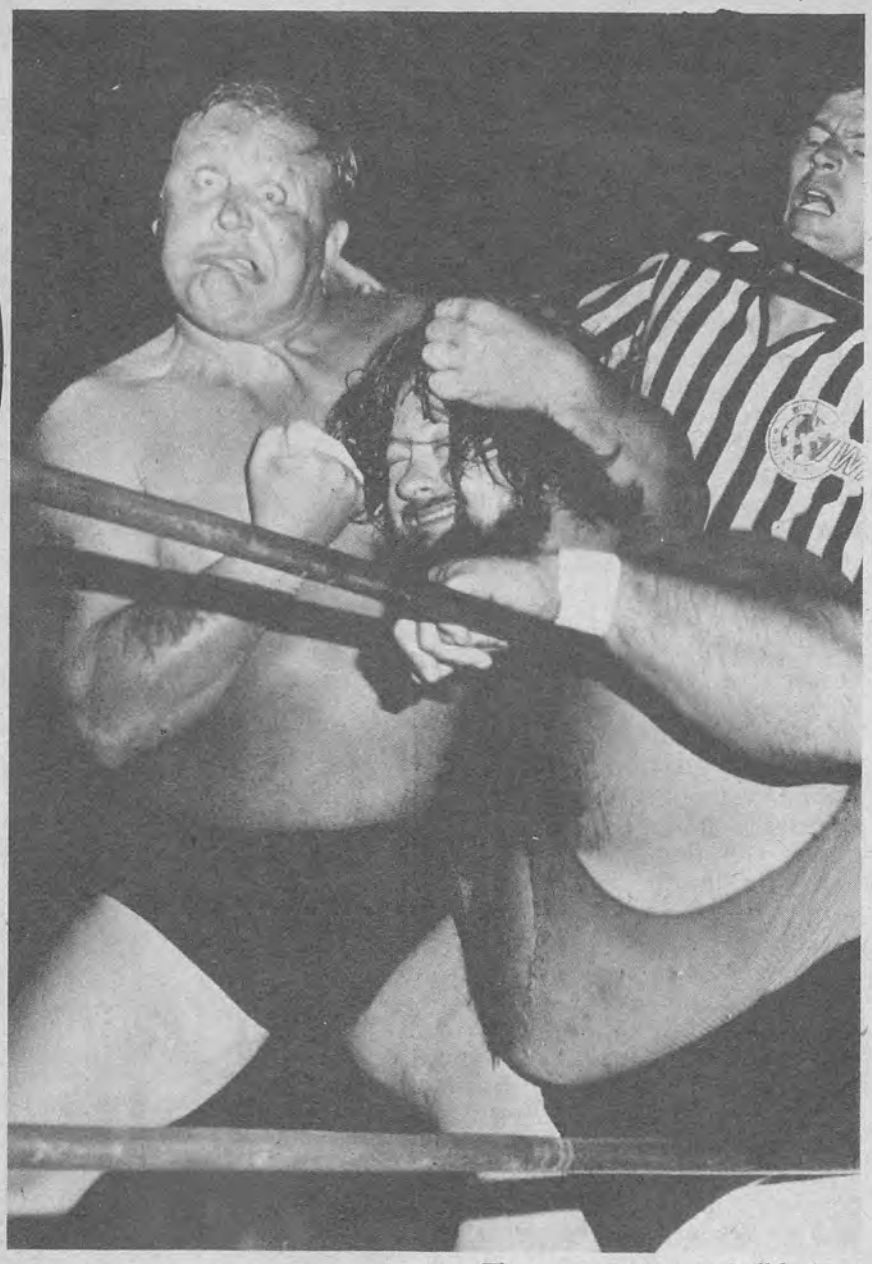
What is most terrifying about Brower from a psychologist's point of view is his consistency. No matter how many people you talk with who



Even a wrestler as great and experienced as Johnny Valentine can find himself battered and bloody by a berserk Bulldog Brower. It is the rare veteran who doesn't have a harrowing tale of tell of grappling against an insane Brower and losing skin and blood!



Above: Eyes bulging with hatred and anger, a bloody Bulldog is still intent on continuing the battle. Right: Mighty Igor is trapped in the corner as the taped fist of Brower smashes into his face again and again!



The scar running up Bulldog's scalp is one indication of the bloody injuries he's suffered.

have been around Brower, none can recall an instance in which he has allowed them to form any personal contact with him. No matter what professional relations they have between them. Brower constantly drives them away if they suggest any avenues of friendship. Many can recall being attacked by simply asking if he'd like to join them for lunch!

Due to this, Brower has been unable to find a permanent tag team partner. Even a professional relationship of any depth frightens him. He drives off any who'd even try to become his partner.

The inability to trust anyone forces Brower into undefensible positions. His paranoia about what other people are plotting to do against him is quite aggravated. This is why he lashes out at everyone, convinced all are conspiring to attack. He must get them before they get him!

This leads to what psychologists call tranference. Unable to confront the real problem, the subject releases his pent-up rage against those whom he feels capable to conquering. In other words, he takes his disappointment over personal relationships and turns the anger toward his professional foe—an area in which he feels capable of success.

This accounts for his maniacal savagery in matches. All his outrage against the world is centered on his opponent. He doesn't care about wrestling or the sport. All he desires is vindication. And to achieve any kind of relief from the emotional stresses he endures, he must become champion.

As champion, he will have conquered in the one portion of his life in which he feels capable. He can then rationalize why he has failed in other areas of human existence, believing his success demanded sacrifices in other areas.

However, it would be psychologically disastrous if he ever won a world championship. As long as he's striving for the title, he can

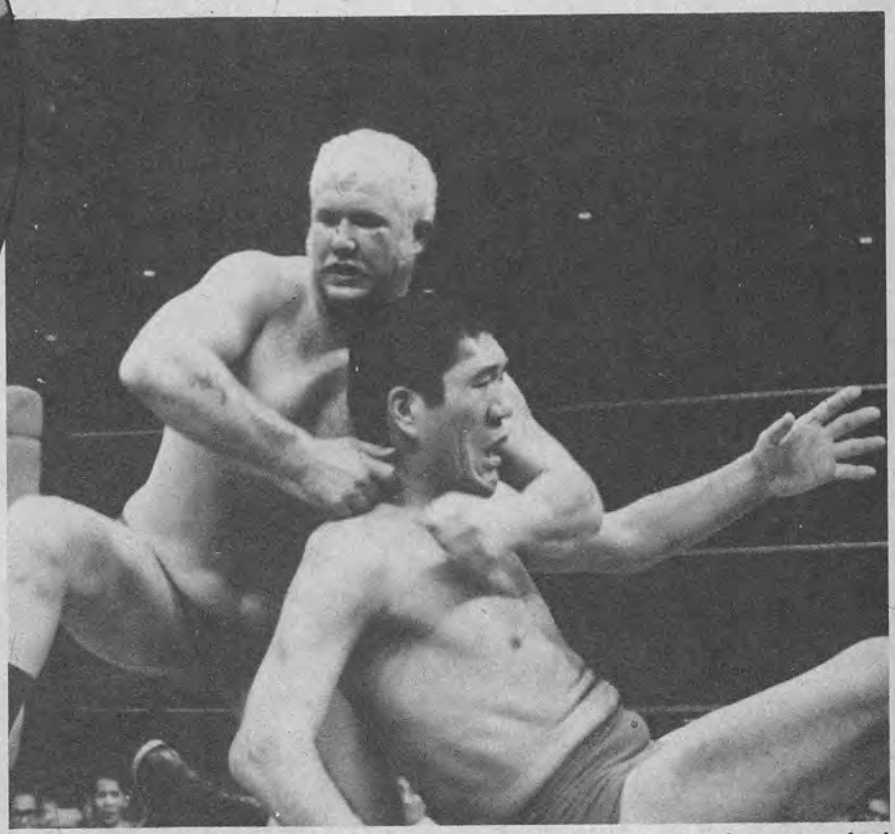
(Continued on page 52)



"I MASSACRED THE MAN WHO DEFEATED BRISCO!"

In an attempt to erase the pain of his N.W.A. title belt loss to Jack Brisco, Harley Race traveled all the way to Japan for one reason —to try and score a victory over Baba the Giant, the man who beat Brisco





Harley Race (above), obsessed with proving his superiority over Jack Brisco, traveled halfway round the world to meet the man who defeated Brisco, Baba the Giant. Harley rages furiously in the bout (right)!

LOSING A CHAMPIONSHIP does strange things to an athlete. His dream, realized after years of struggle, has been snatched from him. The loss of a title destroys some men. Others become obsessed with vindicating themselves, trying to prove the loss was a cruel trick of fate.

Harley Race has spent the last few years proving he's still championship material. After losing his N.W.A championship belt to Jack Brisco, Harley has wrestled an inhumanly grueling schedule, hoping to hush the whispers which circulate about any ex-champion. He's got to prove he's every bit as good as Brisco.

Jack recently lost—and then regained—his title to Baba the Giant. As soon as Harley heard a man had defeated the champion, he immediately tried to get a match against Baba. If he could defeat the man who defeated Brisco, then his self-esteem would be greatly increased.

(Continued on page 53)

It is an indisputable fact that Dean Ho and Tony Garea have left the northeast. According to the Blackjacks, the reason lies in the fingers of their hands



HAS THE BLACKJACKS' CLAWHOLD FINISHED GAREA AND HO?

THE CHEERING FANS fell hushed with horror as the proud body of Dean Ho flopped helplessly on the canvas. His face contorted in agony as Blackjack Mulligan continued to torture him with a clawhold. And when Dean's flesh could stand it no more, it split open, soaking Mulligan's hand with Ho's blood.

As the blood filled his eyes and mouth, Ho struggled even more desperately but just as ineffectually. The veins on Mulligan's hands were bulging with strain and power as the pressure mounted. Ho's struggling grew weaker and it was obvious the man was losing consciousness. And then, with a snarl of disdain, Mulligan hurled Dean back to his partner, Tony Garea. He was contemptuously giving the pair a second chance.

Mulligan tagged his partner, Blackjack Lanza, and he and Garea went at each other vengefully. At first Tony seemed to dominate. Then, before anyone really under-

Tony Garea writhes on the mat as Blackjack Lanza tortures him with an agonizingly cruel claw.

stood how it happend, Tony too fell victim to the clawhold.

Lanza proved his clawhold was just as punishing as his partner's. Tony's powerful body seemed to have its strength squeezed out from the pressure. Muscles grew limp and his clear eyes grew glassy. He was unable to escape from one of the most notorious holds in wrestling history.

What Tony did manage to do was flop gracelessly toward his corner, where the brave and bleeding Ho selflessly reached out his hand for the tag. Not caring about himself, all Dean wished for was to save his partner.

Though half-blinded by the blood which refused to stop flowing in his eyes, Dean leaped upon his foe. Lanza tried to escape the volley of martial arts blows which Dean rained upon him, but he was too stunned by the speed and ferocity of the attack. It was a reeling Lanza who finally tagged Mulligan.

Before Mulligan could resume the clawhold on Dean, though, the time limit expired. The match was over.

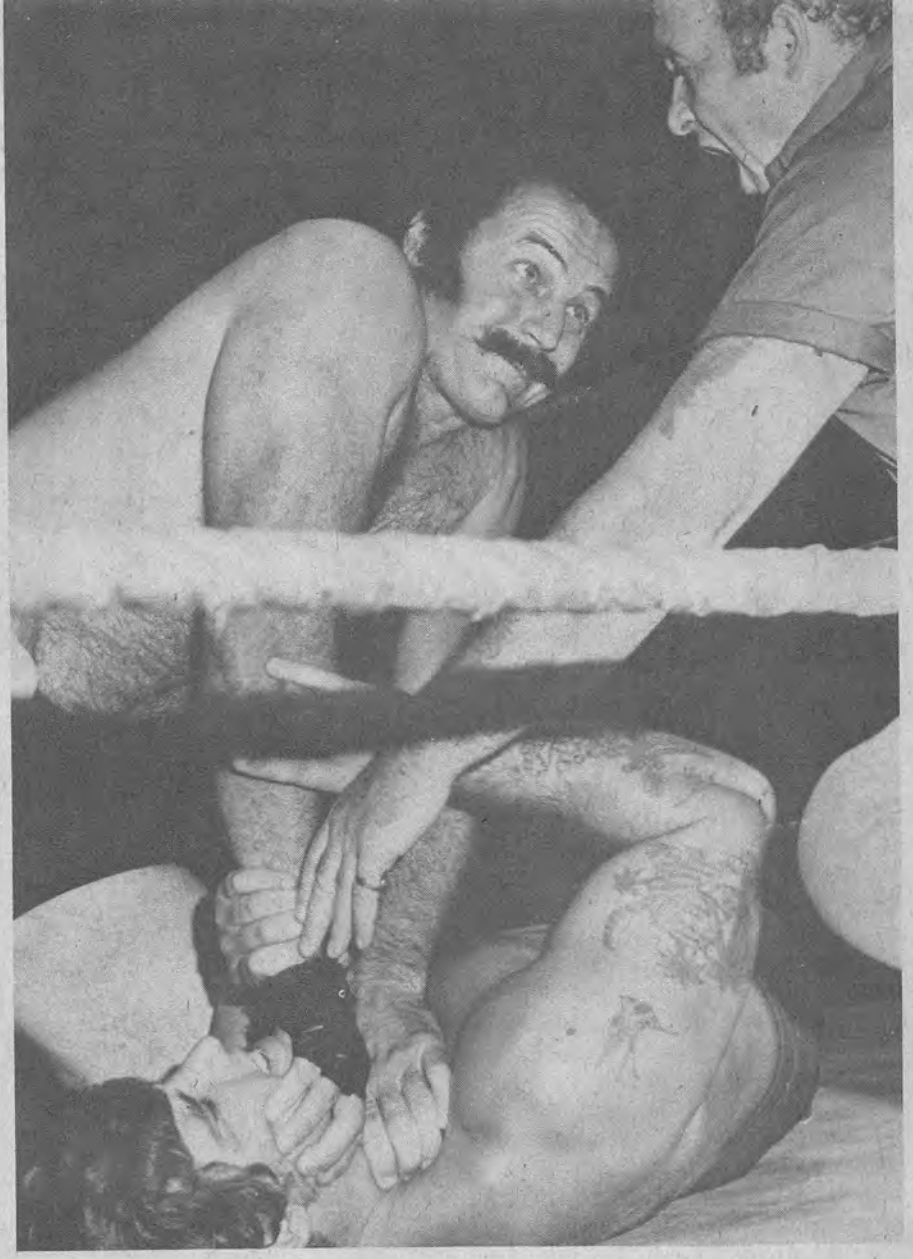
What continues to give this match its notoriety is its aftermath. Dean Ho and Tony Garea have decided to leave the northeast and travel south. The controversy over the reason for their departure rages on.

"The reason they left is at the end of my hand," Mulligan contends. "The're unable to stand in pain—which is understandable. No one can withstand the agony when we clamp our fingers down and press with all our power. The claw is unstoppable!"

"They're running," Lanza adds, "and running scared. They're smart cowards. We can humiliate them any day of the week. Two more matches against us and the pair would be finished. Which would help wreslting, but might make it difficult for them to buy their groceries!

"They were overrated from the beginning. The fans, who are

(Continued on page 56)





Tony comforts bloody Dean Ho after the match. Did the pair find the beating too painful?

GEORGE STEELE'S CLAIM: "BRUNO'S TIME IS UP!"

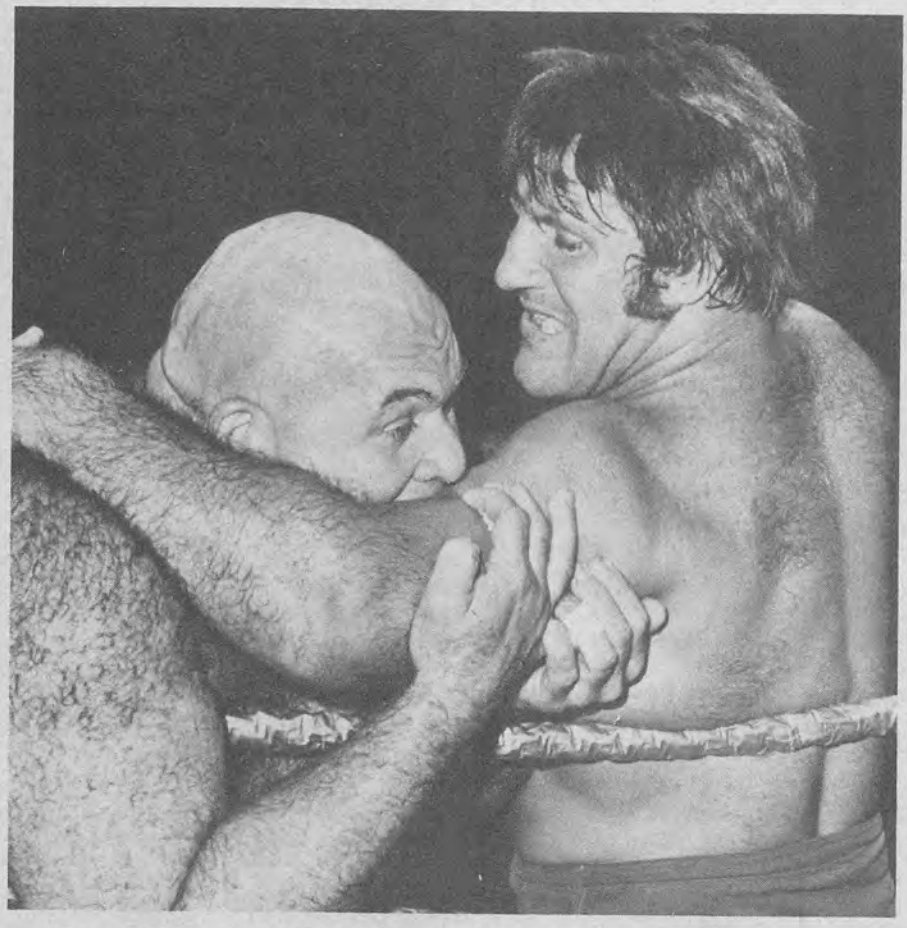
PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

BY GEORGE STEELE

THE EDITORS OF this magazine have asked me to write the true story about my match against Bruno Sammartino. Daddy, they know I'll tell nothing but the truth. So if any of you Sammartino fans are reading this I advise you to stop now unless you've got a strong stomach. 'Cause what I'm gonna tell you will make you sick. I'm going to expose that phoney bum and show him for what he really is—just like I did with that taco bender Pedro Morales a few years ago.

Okay, point one, daddy. I am the guy who has caused Sammartino more hell than anyone. I was the guy who busted his ribs before Ivan Koloff beat him. I am the guy who secretly advised him how to win back the title from Stan Stasiak. That's right, but he'll never admit it. I told him what Stan's weak spots were because I didn't want to wrestle my good friend Stanley. I wanted Sammartino and that belt. And when he won I didn't even get a thank you, daddy. That's how grateful your beloved—ha—champion is.

Next I tried to get a match against Sammartino. No dice. He was chicken. That's the truth. He copped out every time I asked for a match. Sick of waiting, I consulted with my old friend the Grand Wizard. He told me, "I can get



George "The Animal" Steele backs Bruno Sammartino against the ropes and proceeds to gnaw on the champion's arm. In his rage, Steele mistakenly thought Bruno's arm had been previously injured.

According to this exclusive story by George Steele, he will go down in wrestling history as the man who forcibly ended Bruno Sammartino's career!



Above: A bleeding Steele kills time outside the ring. Right: Steele pushes Bruno's throat down onto the bottom rope, trying to choke the champion.

you a title shot, just have patience."

Wiz got me the shot within a few days. Man, you'd better believe he had to pull every string to get that match. Sammartino was pinned to the wall by Wizard, daddy.

I knew the belt would be mine. I would have dreams about the match. There was me, the great George Steele, being awarded the belt. And there was Sammartino, kissing me feet, asking for a rematch. But I refused. He isn't a wrestler. He's a savage. I wrestle scientifically. And if it's my title I'll wrestle only guys who'll stick to the rule book. So cross him off the list.

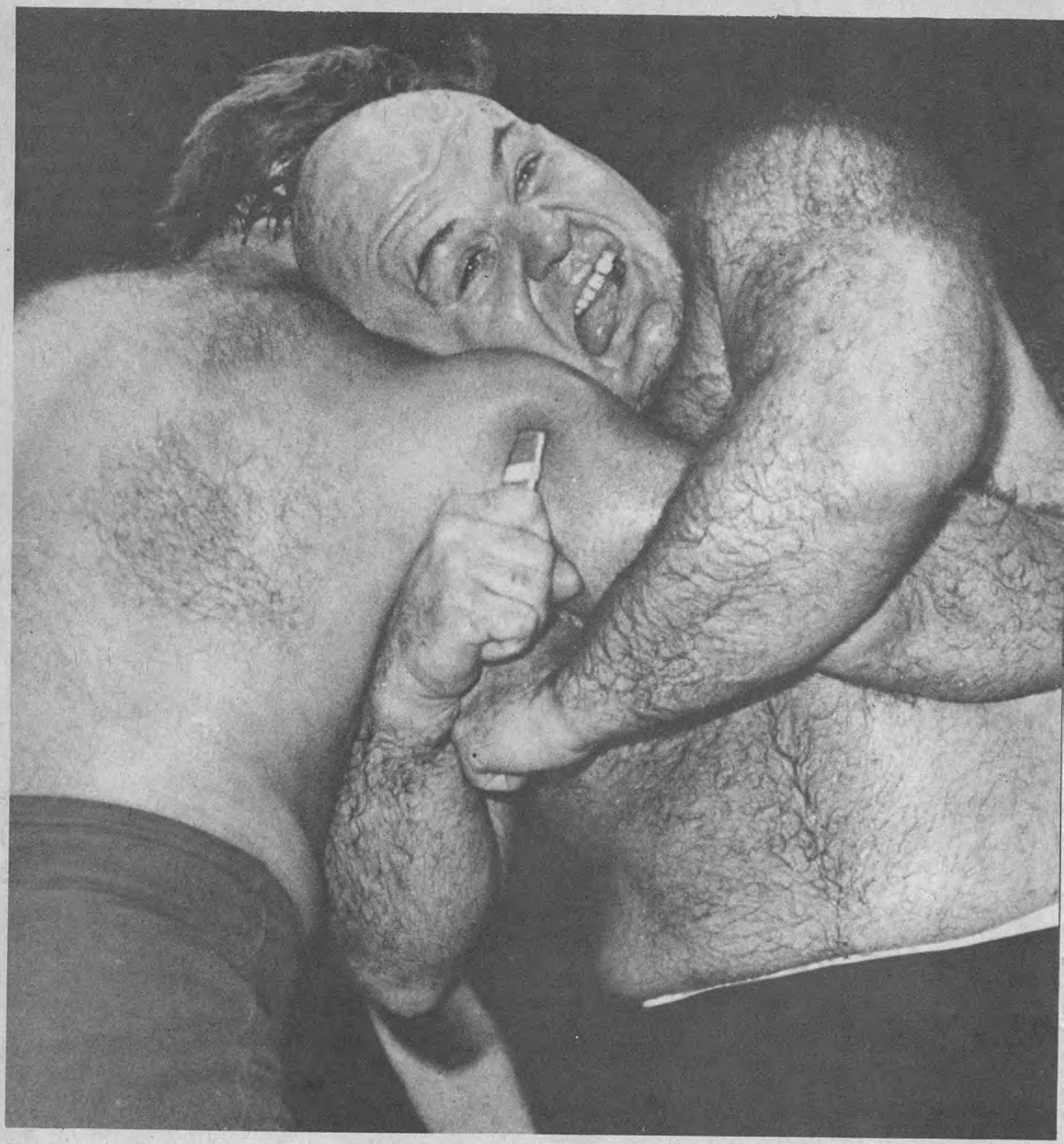
Wizard shot my dreams down. He told me, "You will not go for the title in your first match. Get used to the new Sammartino. He's a tired old man. Run him down. Humiliate him. Then get the title in a rematch."

Right on! Wizard had a great idea, baby. Humiliating Sammartino and showing the fans how bad he is was right up my alley. It was something I wanted to do real bad, man. I mean real bad.

Great. It's the night of the match. Here is is five minutes before match time and Sammartino hasn't shown up yet. I had a feeling he'd chicken out. But then I saw his manager, Arnie "interfering" Skoaland push him into the dressing room area and make him suit up for the match.

What a laugh. Have you ever seen a guy so nervous he can't even take his shirt off properly? That was Sammartino. I've never seen anyone so scared in all my life.

The match is about to start. I tell the referee to make sure Skoaland doesn't



interfere as I send my manager back to the dressing room. *I* don't need any help. Skoaland sits at the ringside during all Sammartino's matches. Bruno needs all the help he can get.

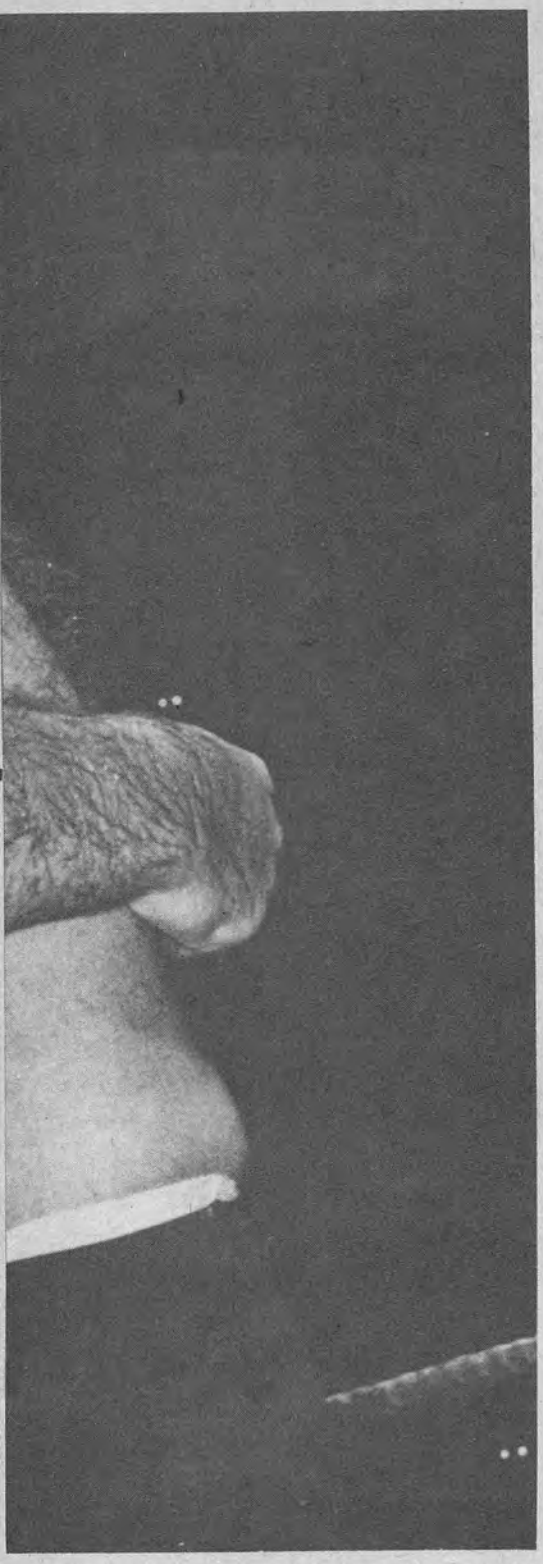
The bell rings and I'm killin' Sammartino. So what does the guy do? He runs to Skoaland and cries on his shoulder. Skoaland makes Sammartino feel better by handing him a foreign object! Man, I wrestled that thing away from him with ease and gave it to the referee. I don't want anyone thinking I used it! Not for one minute.

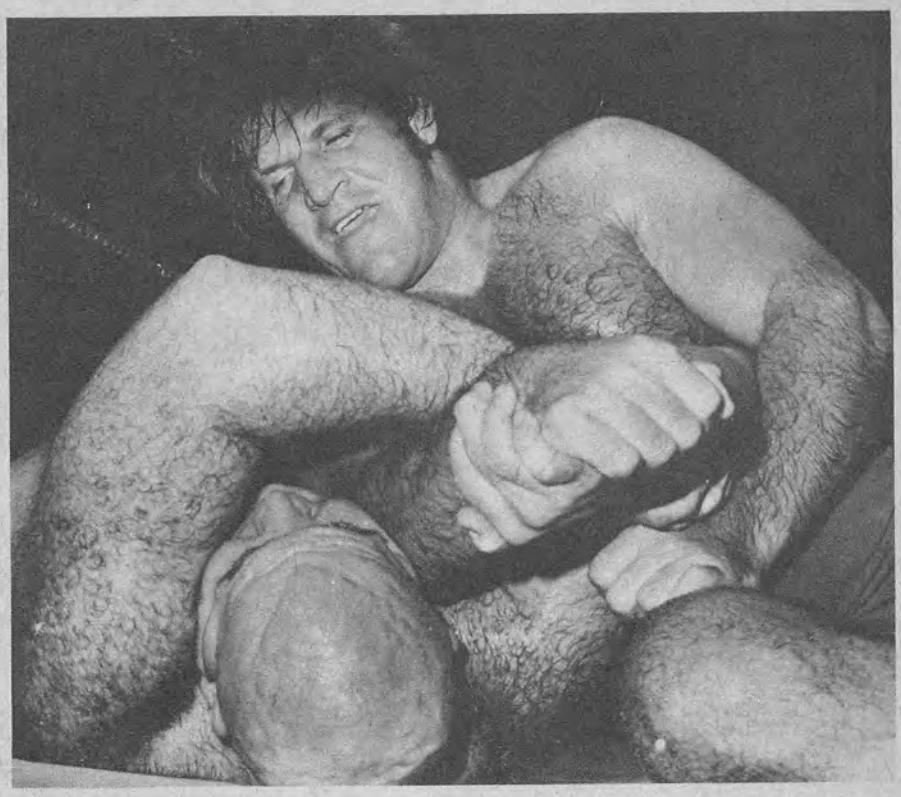
Halfway through the match, Sammartino looks dead. Waldo Von Erich, a guy who also hates Sammartino, climbs on the ring apron telling me to finish Bruno's misery quickly. But I tell Waldo to cool it. This is my ballgame and I want to make Sammartino suffer.

It was a mistake talking to Waldo. Sammartino recovered. And what did he do? You all know. He ran . . . and he ran . . . and he ran! He knew there was a one hour time limit on this match and he was killin' time.

Little did Sammartino know *his* time was up. I now realized this was a tired old bag wrestling me, daddy. He always was that way, but now that I was so much better it was more obvious.

Somehow Sammartino managed to get another foreign object from Skoaland and he ripped my face open with





Opposite page: Dramatic photograph catches George Steele using a foreign object on Bruno's arm. Above: Sammartino had Steele in a painful armbar. George broke the hold by placing his feet under the ropes. Below: Steele tries vainfully to pin the W.W.W.F. champ.



it. All my fans booed and went wild. The referee was going to disqualify him, but I said not to. I was okay, daddy. There was no reason to stop the match.

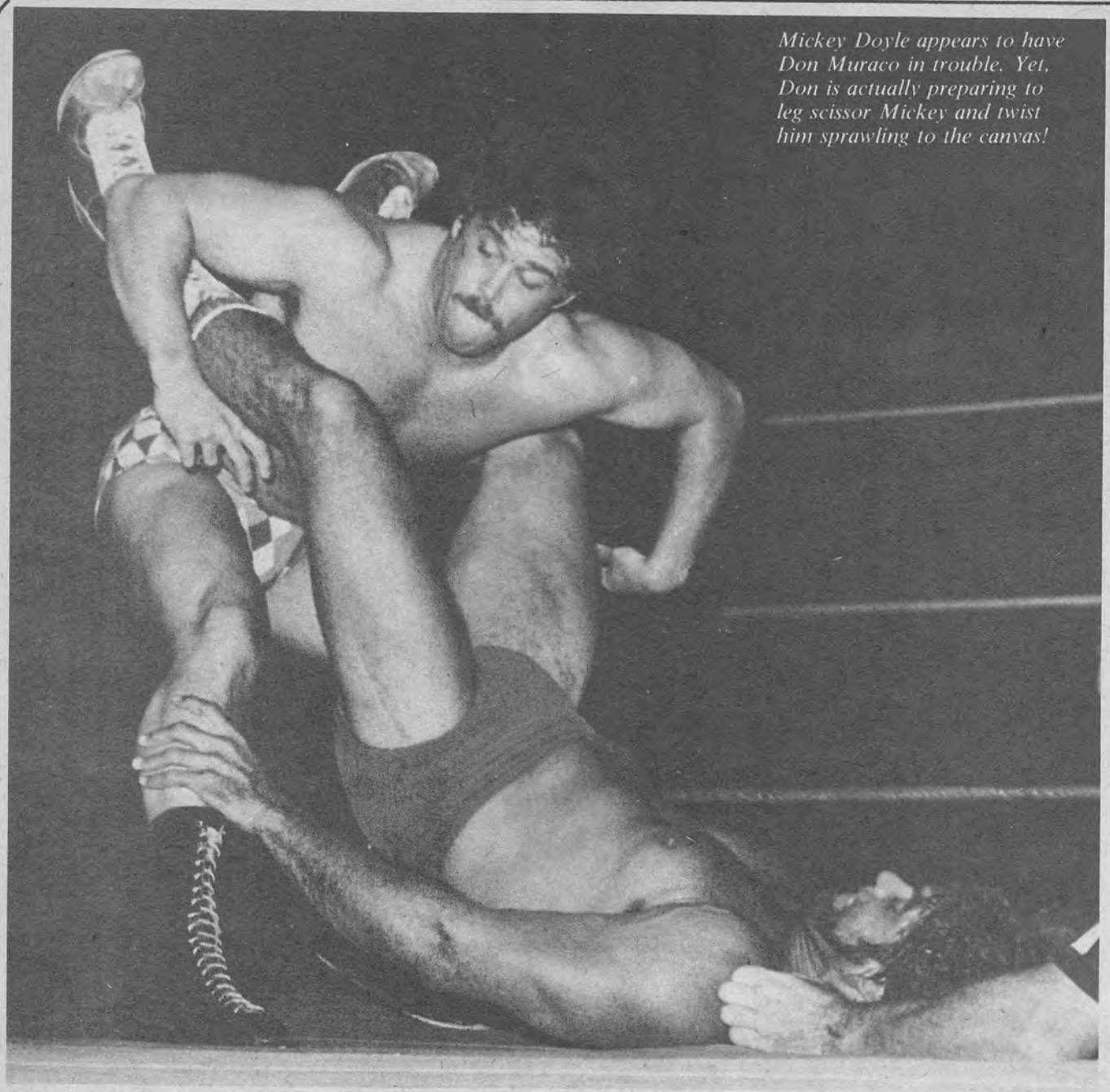
Hell, there was about eight minutes left now and Sammartino kept runnin' like the devil. He knew if I caught him he'd be dead. Finally the time limit ended the slaughter. He fainted as I strode merrily on my way to the dressing room amid the cheers of the crowd. They saw my class and they acknowledged it. I was the champion in the minds of the people.

Wait'll the rematch. Everything is going to go according plan. I completely humiliated Sammartino. And in the return match he cannot run from me. The commission has stated they'll fine him if he does.

As far as I'm concerned, this is my first official article as your new champion. Sammartino's time is up. He's finished, daddy. It's about time that guy retired. Now he world will have a reason to be proud. They've go a champion who is class, daddy. That's me all the way!

As a closing note I just want to let Sammartino know I will be quite offended if he doesn't credit me as the man who ended his career. It's a true claim, Sammartino. You know it. So when the reporters ask you why you retired, let 'em know your time was up when George Steele, the king, entered your life.

Tell it like it is, daddy! □



Mickey Doyle appears to have Don Muraco in trouble. Yet, Don is actually preparing to leg scissor Mickey and twist him sprawling to the canvas!

THERE ARE ALWAYS some careers which seem blessed by destiny. All the innate gifts are realized early. All the breaks are exploited to their fullest potential. Yet, at the base of everything is the necessary regimen of backbreaking work.

The above describes Don Muraco's short but remarkably successful career. He no sooner walked into an arena than the fans sensed this man would be special. In all the great ones, a charisma exists which fans can almost feel on their skins. Muraco exuded that same magical presence.

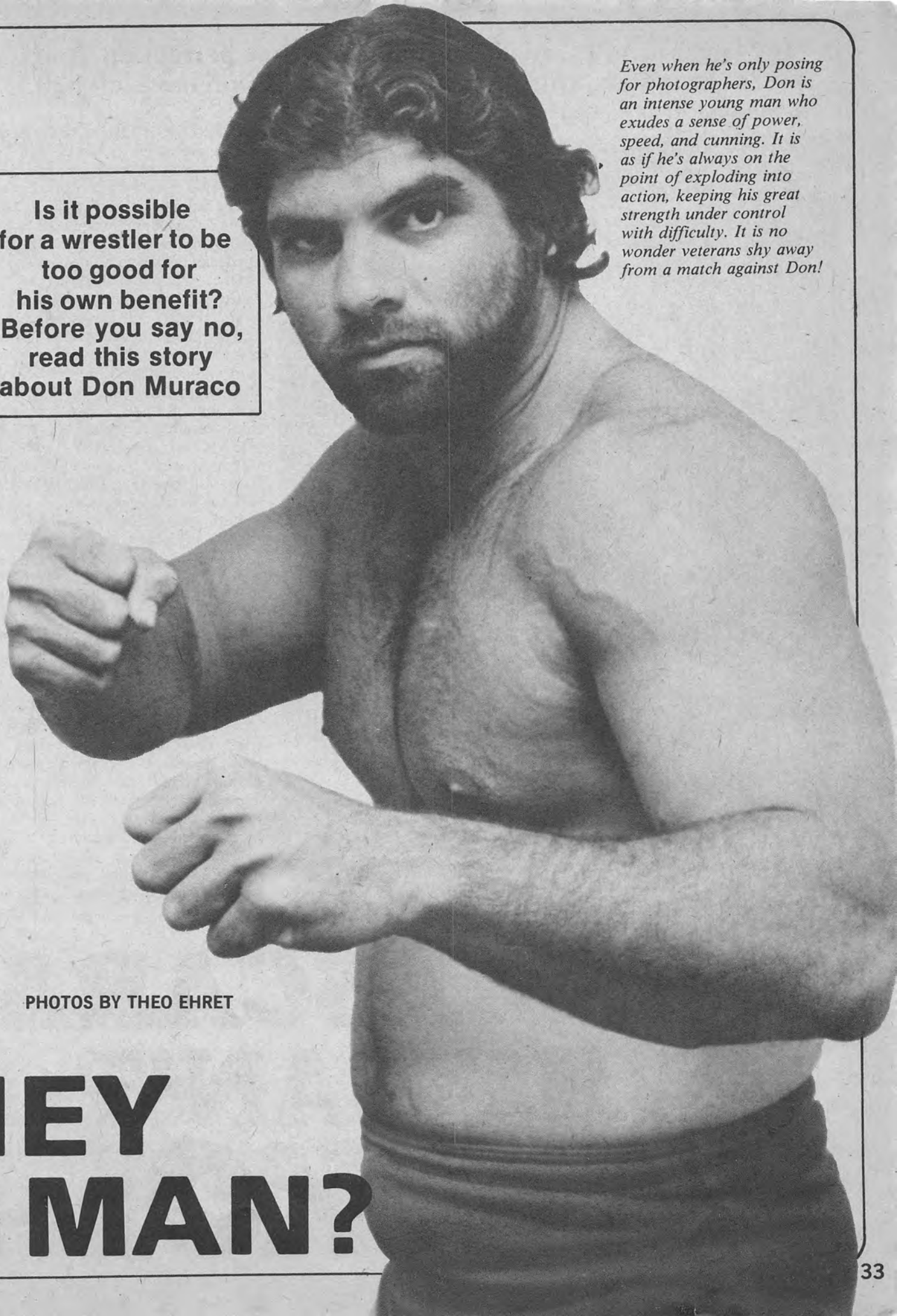
Don's rise can be legitimately described as meteoric. He quickly became a favorite among fans in the South. Wily veterans fell before his skill and daring. His reputation soon made it almost impossible for him to get a match.

It didn't make any sense for a respected veteran to wrestle Don. If he defeated Don, it would be expected. After all, Muraco is only a kid.

(Continued on page 50)

WHY ARE T AFRAID OF THI

Is it possible for a wrestler to be too good for his own benefit? Before you say no, read this story about Don Muraco

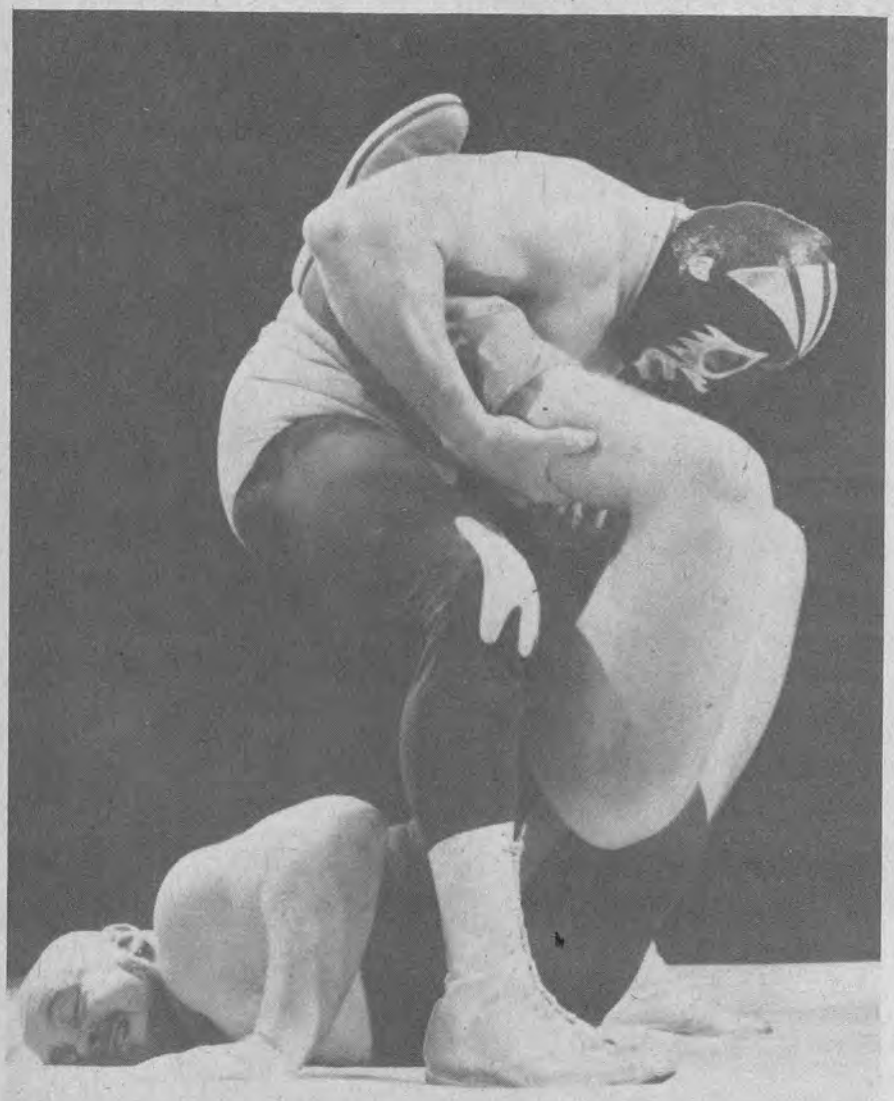


Even when he's only posing for photographers, Don is an intense young man who exudes a sense of power, speed, and cunning. It is as if he's always on the point of exploding into action, keeping his great strength under control with difficulty. It is no wonder veterans shy away from a match against Don!

PHOTOS BY THEO EHRET

HEY S MAN?

Mil Mascaras will settle for nothing less than perfection. And that's the reason why his bouts with Ivan Koloff have left him a disappointed man



Mil Mascaras tries to get Ivan Koloff to submit by applying a Boston Crab. However, Koloff was able to break the hold and this match, like many others between the two men, went to a draw.

THROUGH THE MASK, his eyes appeared glassy and distant. The match which he had just completed was being replayed again in his mind. Every moment, every nuance, was being dissected and examined. Somewhere in the midst of that furious battle lay the key to what went wrong.

Once again, Mil Mascaras had failed to defeat Ivan Koloff. Once again, the two had struggled only to end the match inconclusively. It was a magnificent exhibition of wrestling skill and cunning. Both men were at their grappling peaks. Even Koloff, notorious for his illegal savagery, rarely resorted to foul tactics. For his attempt to snare the I.W.A. title, he wanted to win it without controversy. And Mil tried to defeat him on the same scientific terms.

Both men failed to realize their dreams of glory. This match ended with a heartbreaking, unsatisfactory double disqualification. The conclusion haunted Mil as he sat in the dressing room, painfully recalling every moment of the struggle. No one dared interrupt his recollections, so entranced in thought was the masked grappler.

Finally, Mil's eyes focused on the crowd squeezed into the dressing room. Shaking the demons from his brain, he waited for the first question. He didn't want to say anything until he knew himself what had happened. Perhaps the answer would appear as he discussed the confrontation.

"Did you feel in control of the match?" was the first question with which Mil had to contend. The answer

MIL MASCARAS "WHY CAN'T I IVAN KOLO

came slowly as Mil whose each word with care.

"After the first few minutes of the first fall," Mil replied, "I thought I had him. I'm not underestimating or ignoring the great maneuvers which Ivan executed tonight. He was better than I've ever seen him before—and despite his often repulsive tactics, Koloff is an excellent athlete.

"However, I was executing at will, doing what I do best often. There are times when you're wrestling when it seems everything is slowed down to make it easier for you. You just seem to fall into a rhythm which makes it impossible for you to do wrong. It's difficult to explain, but every athlete in any sport knows what I mean.

"I felt this way tonight. I was making all the right decisions, countering with just the right maneuver. And when I won the first fall, I thought I was unbeatable this night."

The first fall showed Mascaras at his best, which most experts agree is wrestling at its best. His world famous flying tactics were never more graceful nor more effective. And his acrobatics were obviously confounding the Russian challenger.

Again and again, Mascaras trapped Koloff with excellent maneuvers. Again and again, Ivan proved his superb ability by escaping at the last possible instant. And Ivan even managed to mount a fairly telling attack.

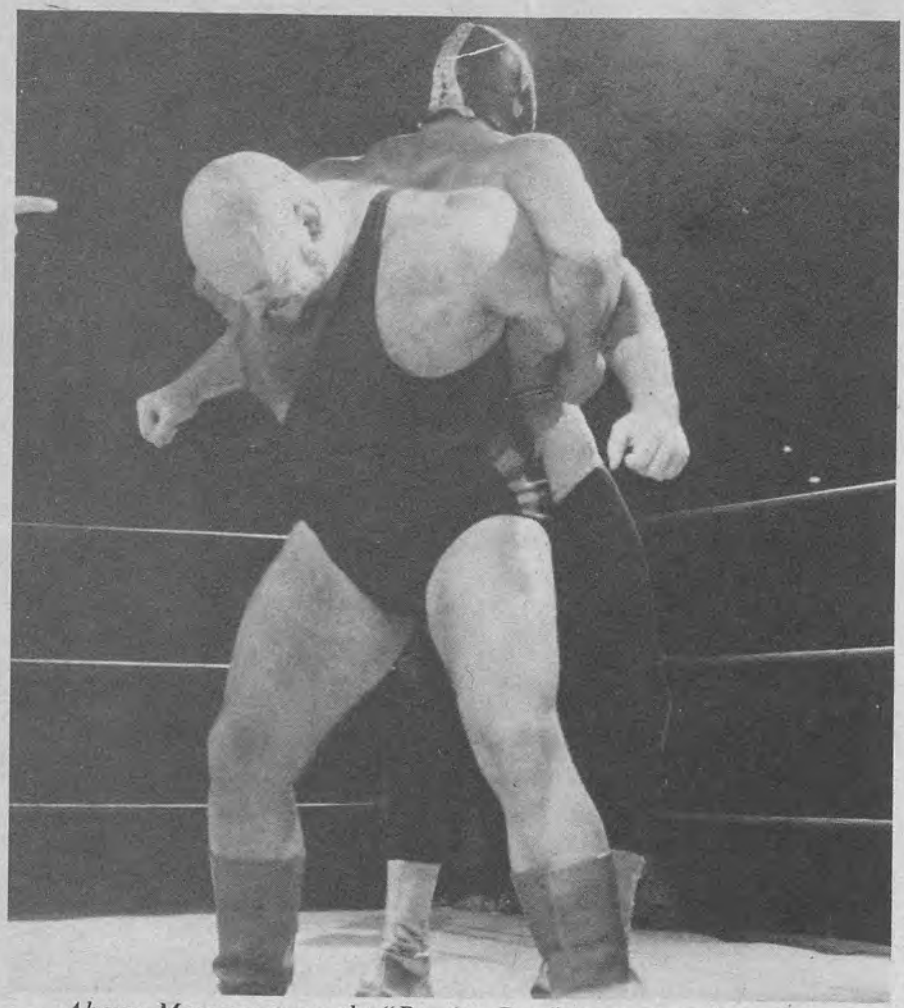
But the first fall was to be Mascaras'. With a brilliant flying body press, he brought his foe to the canvas. No human on earth could have escaped from that and Ivan Koloff is human. The first fall was captured by Mil. He was now one fall away from achieving his dream.

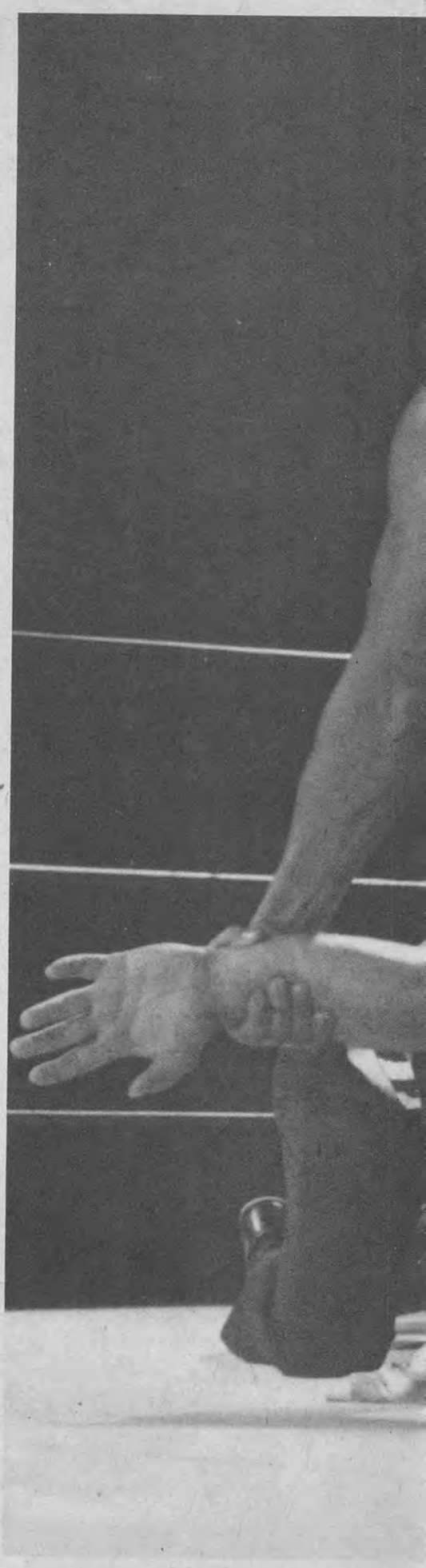
"I was trying my best to end this

PHOTOS BY JOHN AREZZI



CRIES: DEFEAT FF?"





Above: Mascaras traps the "Russian Bear" in an excruciatingly painful armstretcher. But once again Koloff was able to escape from the hold. Opposite page: A torturous Mexican surfboard and neckbreaker fails to make Koloff quit. It was one of the first times this hold failed to bring a submission for Mil Mascaras.

match in only two falls," Mil admitted without probbing. "It was the first I.W.A. card in the New York area and I wanted it to be a glorious occasion for me. When the fans filled the stadium, welcoming us so wonderfully, I wanted to repay them with the one victory which has escaped me. I wanted them to participate in the celebration, so to speak.

"I'll admit I tried my hardest to defeat Koloff in the next fall. Maybe I tried too hard, was over-anxious where I should have been cautious. There were four or five bad mistakes I made during the second fall. They might not have been obvious, and Koloff failed to take advantage of them, but they were there. It was unforgivable in a professional. I should know better than to get excited or sloppy."

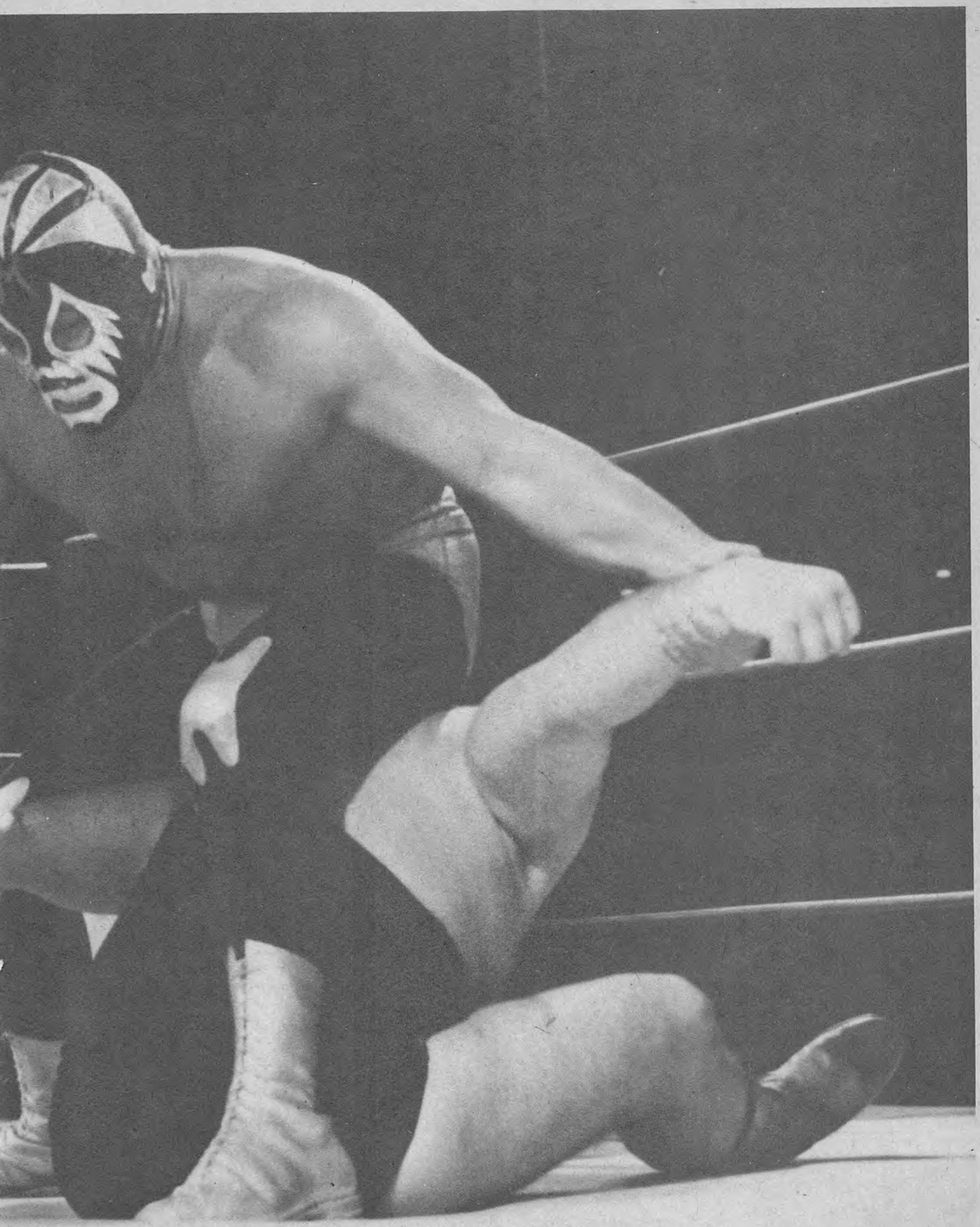
Mil was the only one who would accuse himself of being sloppy. He was as great as in the first fall. It was only that Koloff too was wrestling perfectly. And as the fall progressed, Mil's excitement could be seen to get the better of him.

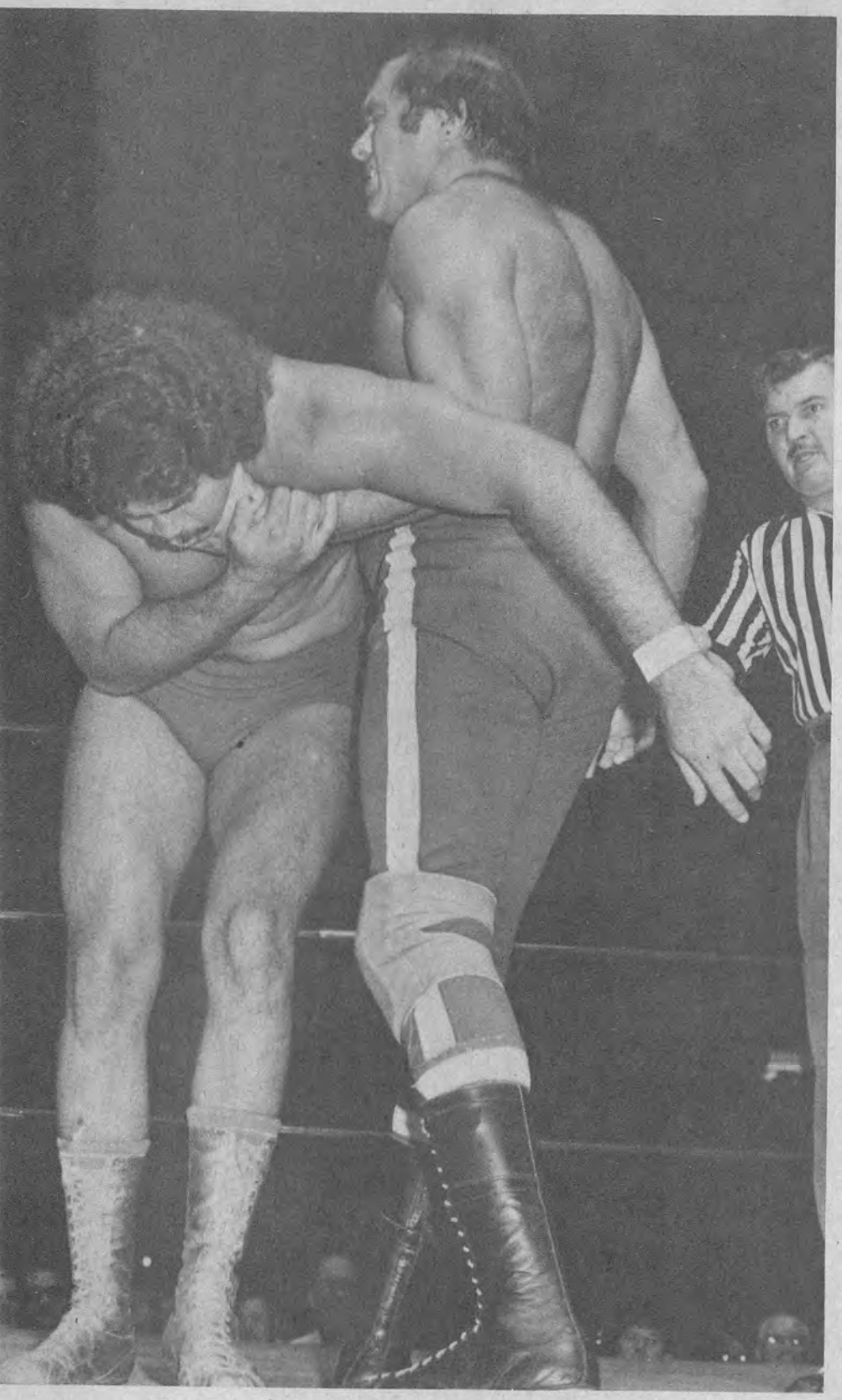
While only Mil knows what mistakes he made, for even the most expert observer couldn't detect any glaring faults in this fall, Koloff did penetrate his defenses with slightly more ease. And Ivan seemed for the first time to be mounting a consistent attack. He wasn't getting more daring as much as he was becoming more cunning.

And then came the end of the second fall. Mil tried to duplicate his previous success by felling his foe with a flying body press. Koloff was ready for him. Sidestepping at the last possible instant, Ivan let Mil fly. Then the Russian brought his knee up hard into Mil's groin. The masked mat star crashed to the canvas, doubling over in agony.

Koloff knew no man could flee now. Carefully, he climbed to the top rope and then leaped off. He crushed Mascaras with an atomic drop. The

(Continued on page 58)





ALBE TO TO

Alberto Madrill painfully learns that there is no one better at hiding illegal tactics than John Tolos. Here Tolos, with the referee's view blocked, has a chokehold clamped on Al Madrill.

EVERY SO OFTEN a wrestler must throw caution to the wind and take a reckless gamble. It's the moment when spirit replaces wisdom, when luck is taken for granted. It's part of an athlete's maturation process. Most survive it.

Al Madrill had been biding his time recently in the twilight zone between rookie and veteran. Too seasoned to be considered a youngster yet not having paid enough dues to wear the label of veteran, Al finds his opponents are in the same position as himself. At times, he manages to get a match against one of the top rated men. But there are instances when Al's ambition prods him to take more chances, wrestle the best to the finish.

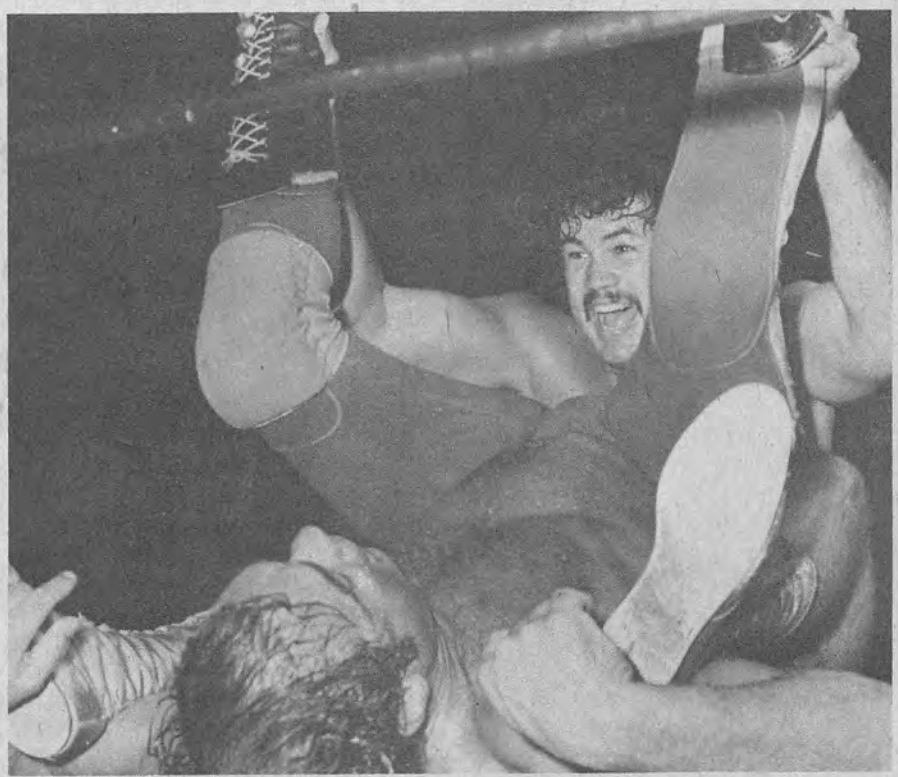
Usually, Al chooses his opponents with professional objectivity. They are challenging without being overpowering. And they are usually more adept at wrestling than illegal mayhem. But every so often, like every ambitious athlete, he wishes to test how much he's improved against the top competition. Often, that means against men whose skills include hiding illegal tactics from the referee.

It was this ambition which led him to accept his first match against John Tolos. The Golden Greek migrated to Texas recently and wished to infuriate the Lone Star State fans as he's done all over the world. One of his most common methods is to batter a fan favorite senseless. In recent months, Madrill has won enough honors to qualify as Tolos' perfect victim.

"You Texas geeks," Tolos screamed, "are ignorant! I'm going to show you what real wrestlers can do. You say this Madrill clown is championship material. You say

RTO MADRILL: O MUCH, O SOON?

PHOTOS BY JIM CALDWELL





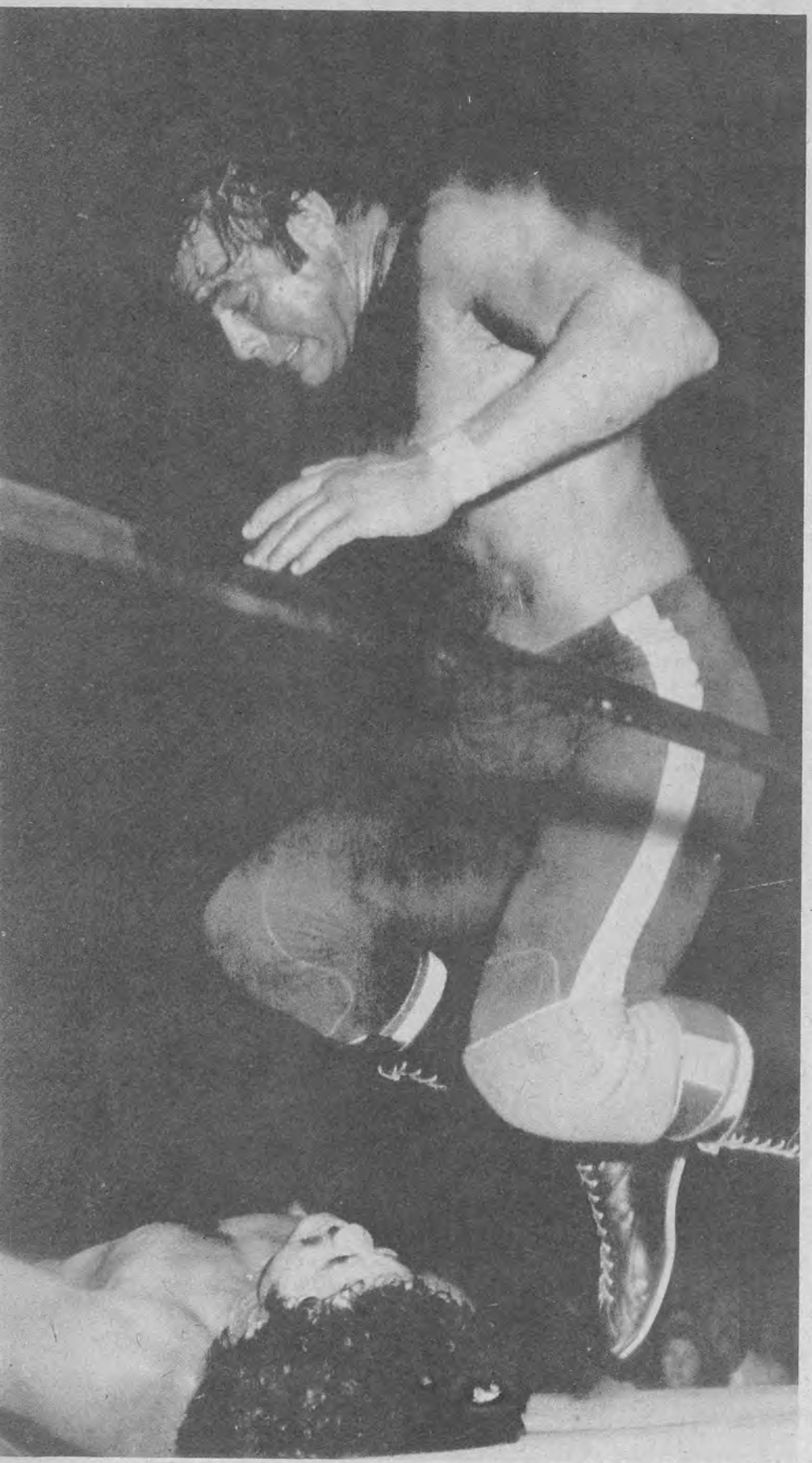
Above: Alberto Madrill arrives in the ring in full regalia to the cheers of the spectators. Left: Al almost pins Tolos.

Alberto Madrill is a young wrestler who is undoubtedly a superstar of tomorrow. However, there are many concerned fans who feel Al is biting off more than he can chew at this stage of his career

he's young, you say he's good, you say he's a credit to the sport. You prove you don't know anything about wrestling!

"I'm great! I'm a wrestler! I'll destroy Madrill right in front of your uneducated eyes. What has passed for wrestling in Texas before will never be good enough again. John Tolos is here! The Golden Greek will be hailed as the greatest ever!"

Al was told by many friends not to





Above: Madrill grabs both of Tolos' legs and prepares to come down with a flying stomp. Left: A dazed Al Madrill is about to be knee-dropped.

take the match. They argued that Tolos was too dirty, too cruel for the young grappler. Madrill was urged to ignore Tolos' challenge. There were plenty of opponents he'd already been scheduled to battle. There was no need to fit this most difficult match into his heavy workload.

"I can't let him continue to insult me," Al declared. "My fans expect me to defend my honor. I can't betray them.

"Anyway," Al continued with a gleam in his eye, "I think I can beat Tolos. I'm ready for him. A victory over that guy would be the next rung up the ladder. I can beat him. I know I can. Tolos thinks he's found himself a patsy. What he's actually found is a young conqueror. Beating Tolos would put me on the top."

The grappler's friends tried to change his mind, but visions of a world championship had already flooded Al's brain. Madrill wouldn't argue with his friends. He simply ignored them as he lost himself in his dreams of glory.

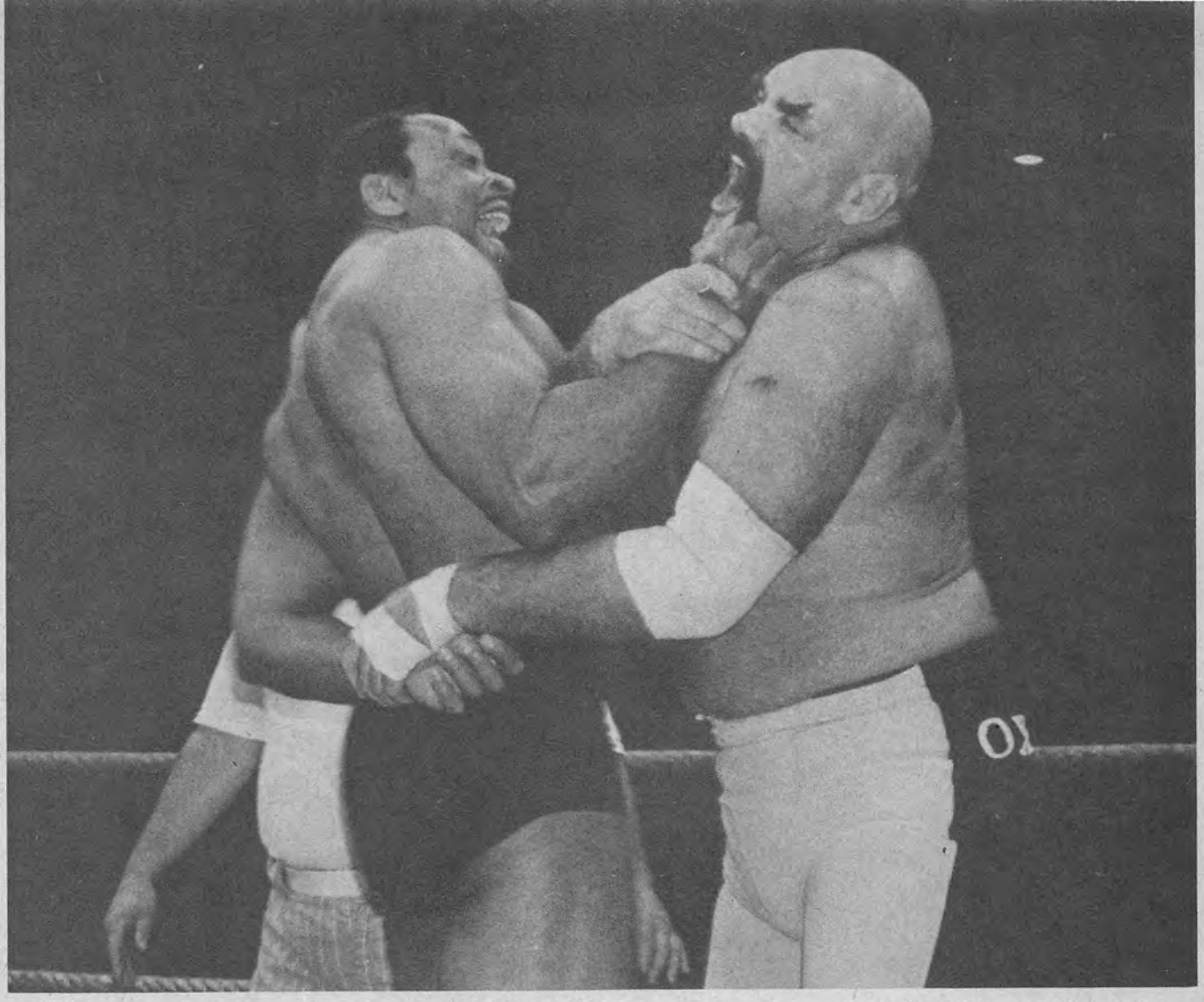
There were dreams of glory realized the night of the match. Tolos was shocked by the skill and daring of his young foe, but John didn't gain his notorious reputation by being overwhelmed. With cruel intellect, Tolos battled his way back, analytically picking apart his foe's defenses. Slowly but surely, the veteran took control of the match. And then it was all over.

Tolos moved with astonishing swiftness to drop his young foe on the top turnbuckle. Al crumpled to the canvas and Tolos was the winner.

Al's friends were too polite to say "I told you so" until Al made his startling announcement.

"I'm wrestling Tolos again!" he

(Continued on page 57)



This match was to be a battle of brawn between two of wrestling's strongest grapplers. Yet no one expected to see the winner lying on the canvas, squirming in agony

PHOTOS BY BOB SABRE

As Baker attempts to break Art Thomas' left arm, Art grabs at Ox's moustache with his right! The powerful grapplers brawl with the fury only bitter foes can bring to a match. It is astonishing neither man had to be carted off to the hospital!

THE SAILOR AND THE OX

SWEAT POURED DOWN the two taut and straining bodies. Magnificently developed muscles bulged with power. Two of the strongest men in the world were pitted against each other. Neither man could conceive of submitting.

Ox Baker seemed to be gaining an advantage over Sailor Art Thomas. With their hands locked in a test of strength, Art was slowly being forced to his knees. The veins of the two men's four arms stood out. After more than 60 seconds of the awesome contest, Baker's left arm began to tremble from exhaustion. Thomas saw this and figured it was now he must make his move..

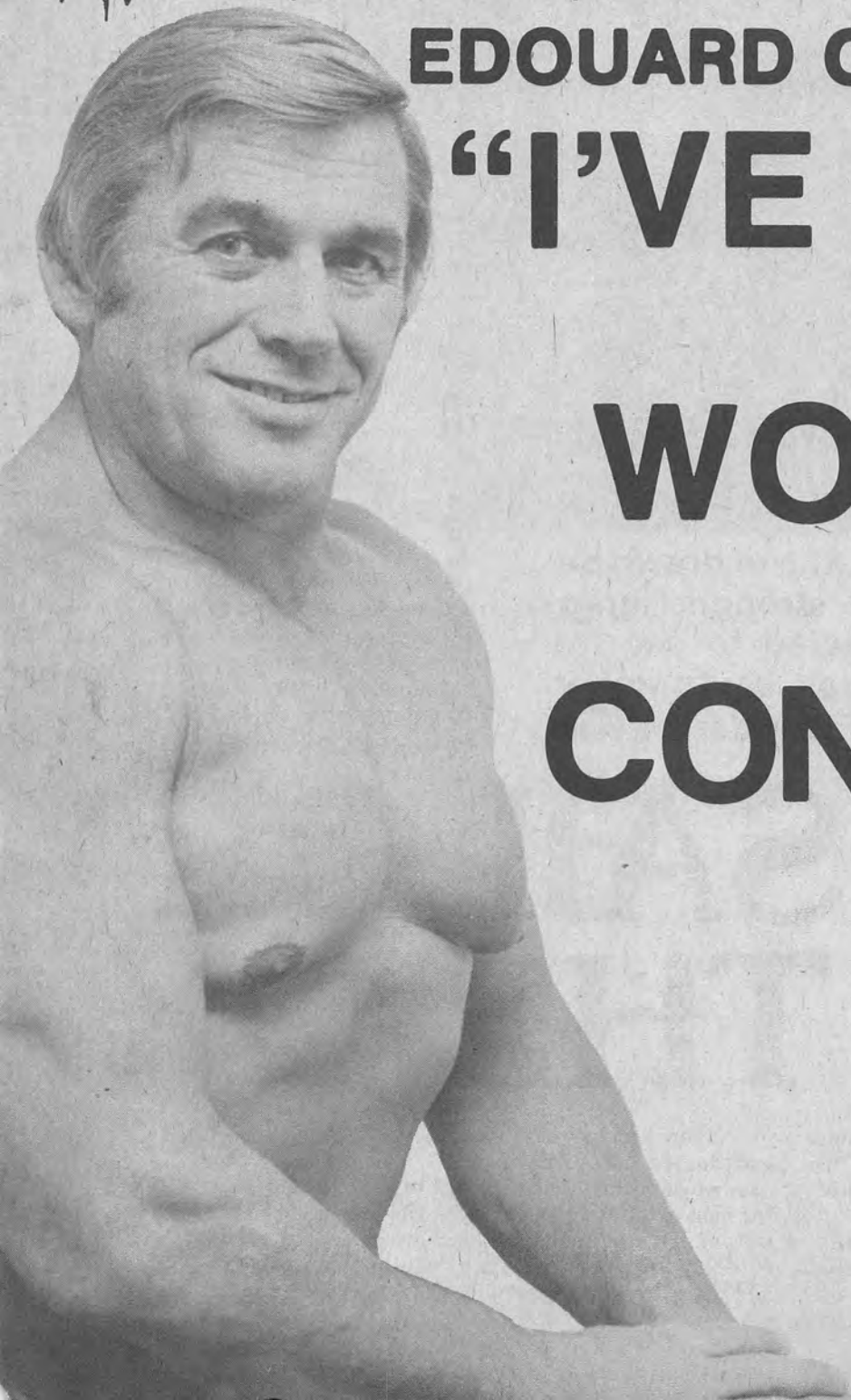
Art twisted toward the trembling limb. The power lock was broken. Baker went tumbling across the canvas, hurled by the sudden unleashing of the hold. He sprang

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WRESTLER ON THE "HOTSEAT"

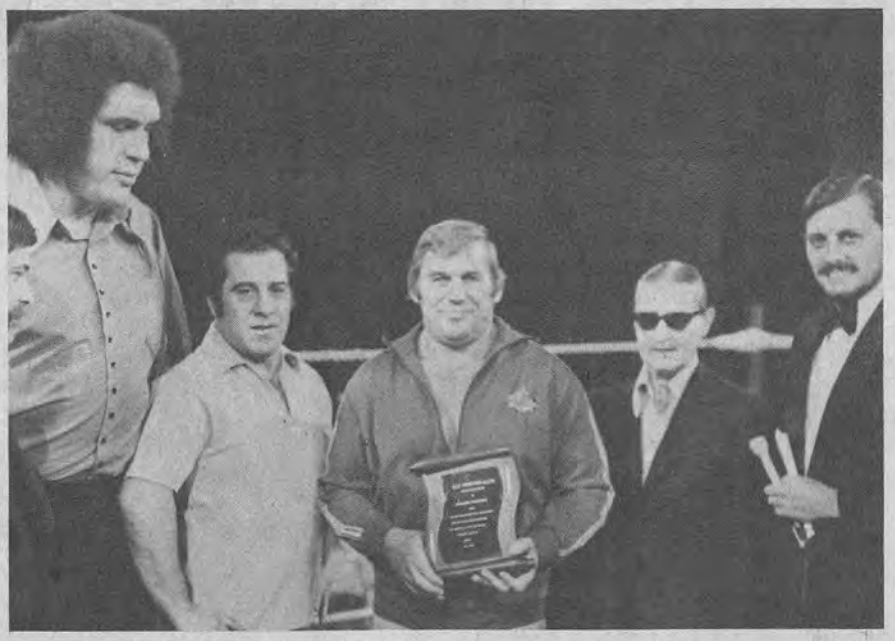
EDOUARD CARPENTIER:

"I'VE STILL GOT WORLDS TO CONQUER"



HE'S ONE OF wrestling's immortals. His acrobatic style captured the fancy of fans both in the United States and abroad. Predicted to be a great champion, this polite Frenchman has wrestled the greatest men in the sport. His style is imitated by many—but duplicated by none. He's currently touring the United States and once again amazing fans with his dynamic maneuvers. He is "The Flying Frenchman." He is Edouard Carpentier.

The "Hotseat" is not a comfortable place to be. When we put a wrestler on the "Hotseat" we interview him. But it is more than just an interview. It is a no-holds-barred question and answer forum that probes beyond the obvious and seeks to find out what others are afraid to ask. The "Hotseat" pulls no punches and plays no favorites. It is the kind of in-depth feature you'll find nowhere else!



Above: Edouard Carpentier is presented with one of his many awards. On the extreme left is Andre the Giant, a man whom Edouard helped to discover. Below: Ed's uncle was boxer Georges Carpentier, and Edouard shows Mad Dog Vachon he's as good a boxer as wrestler.



Q: Welcome to the "Hotseat," Edouard.

A: Thank you very much. It's a pleasure to be here. I hope I can answer your questions.

Q: Have your acrobatic tactics helped you or hurt you? After all, we've seen many guys kick you when you try to do a cartwheel or some other move like that.

A: They've helped me. You see, my opponents are confused by those moves. Very rarely have my adversaries taken advantage of my acrobatics. It's almost impossible.

Q: Do you have to make sure your opponent is dazed before you can do that famous backflip off the ropes?

A: Yes. If not he might move out of the way and thwart me with his foot or punch me while I'm coming down. When he doesn't know where he is I can—well—come and go as I please in that ring.

Q: You've been around a while Ed, and wrestled a who's who in the sport. It's and old question, but who would you pick as your toughest opponent?

A: Bruno Sammartino for one. It was a clean match, but it was tough. The match had a lot of good clean action. I'd love to wrestle a match like that again. It was a pleasure.

Q: What about roughhouse wrestlers?

A: Don Leo Jonathan and Killer Kowalski top that list.

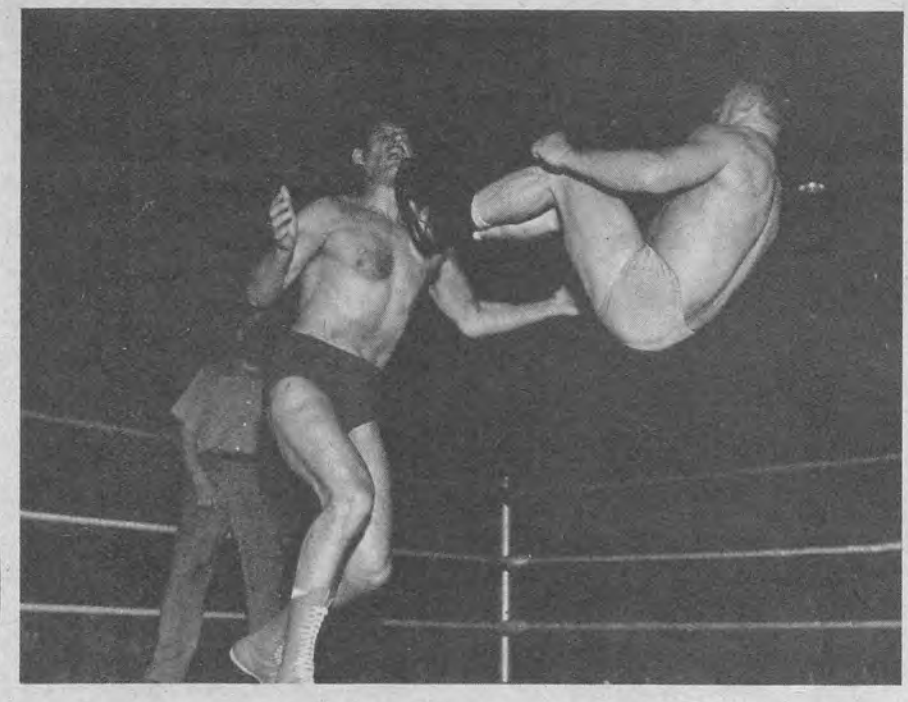
Q: Do you have to break rules to get at these men?

A: I do not have to adapt to their style if that is what you are saying. I am confident that my style can handle any opponent, be it Jonathan, Kowalski or anyone else for that matter.

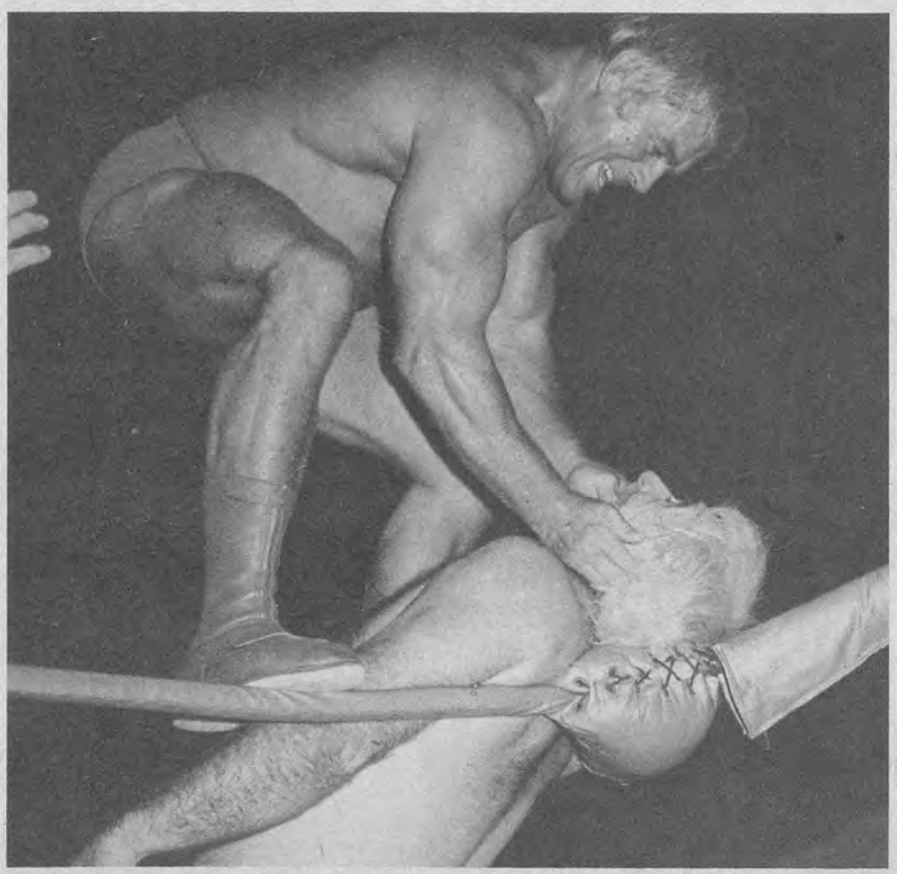
Q: John Tolos, a man with whom you teamed for a while before splitting

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT MY STYLE CAN HANDLE ANY OPPONENT"





Above: A lesson from the master on the art of the flying dropkick. Edouard catches Killer Kowalski flush on the chin and sends the giant reeling. Below: Carpentier climbs on the top rope to get some leverage on a chinlock. Jerry Brown is his unhappy victim.



violently, broke one of your hands. Then the hand was further injured by Pat Patterson and Black Gordman. What's the extent of that injury now?

A: It's all healed. It's as strong as it ever was. And don't think that I've finished my battles against these men. I will repay them eventually for what they did to me!

Q: Many people credit you with being one of the men who molded Andre the Giant into a superstar. How do you feel now that he's made it?

A: I discovered him in France in 1964. In 1971 I brought him to Canada. Then he moved on to become a worldwide star. How could I help but be proud of him. Andre is a great wrestler and will go down in history as being one of the sport's greatest legends.

Q: Many wrestlers have tried to invent formulas to defeat Andre. Do you have one in case the two of you ever battle?

A: I don't know. I don't think anyone can defeat this guy.

Q: Come on, Edouard. You must have thought about it at times.

A: Okay. I guess dropkicking him repeatedly would take him down. Then I'd try to finish him. But it would be really tough to beat him. Maybe you'd have to use extremely dirty tactics to defeat him. But that's not my style.

Q: Have you ever teamed with him?

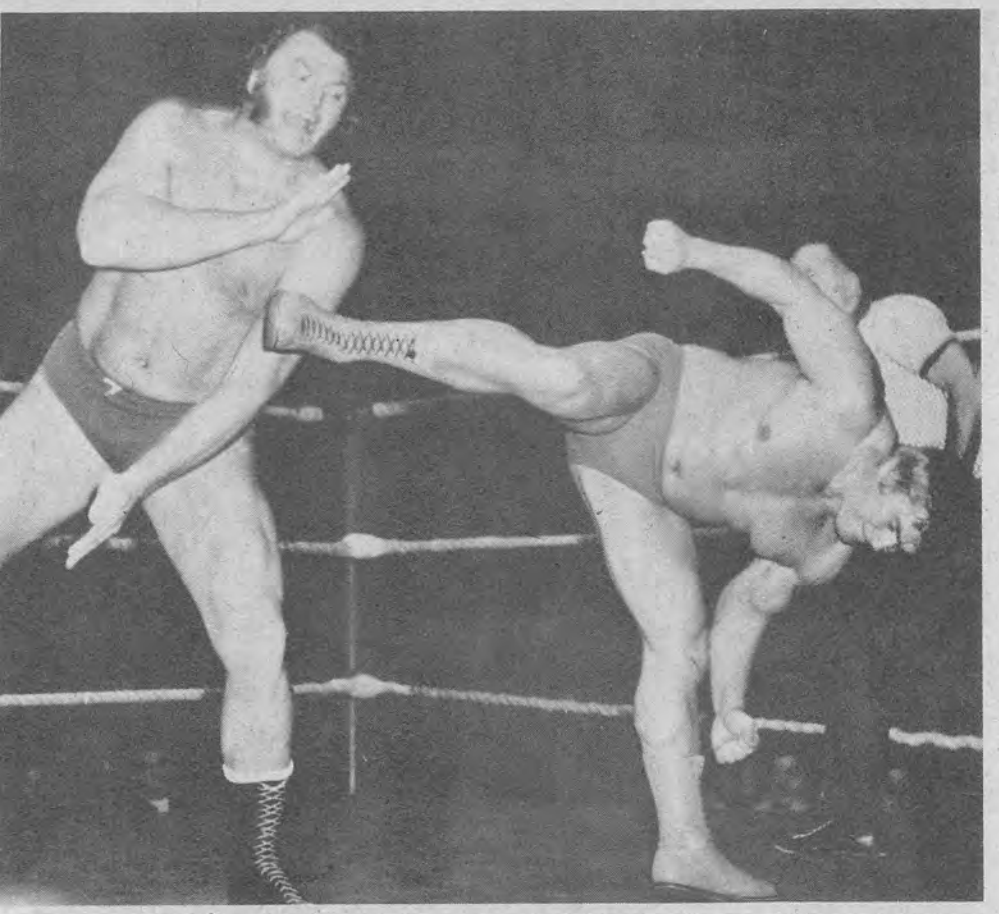
A: Several times.

Q: What kind of partner is he?

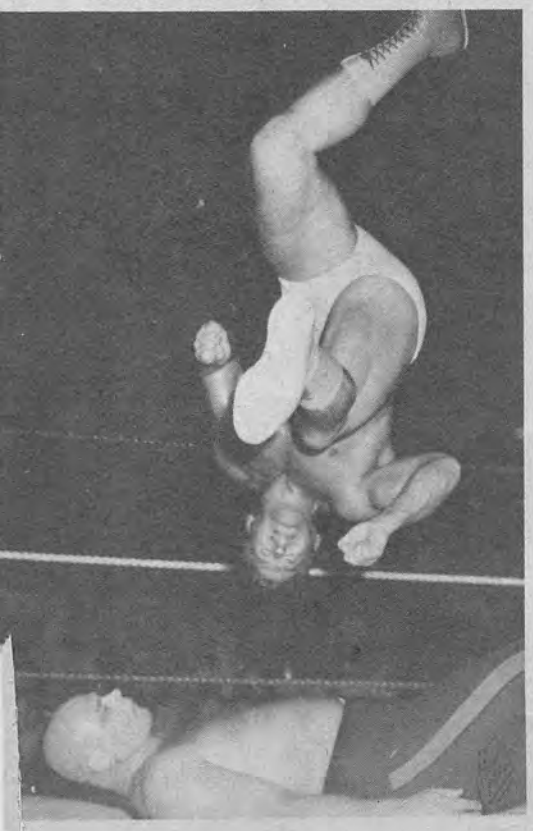
A: A very good one. Andre is a very observant wrestler. When his partner is in danger, you can rest assured Andre will do all he can to get him out of trouble. I'd rate him as one of the best partners I've ever had.

Q: Who else fits into that category?

A: Antonino Rocca, Bruno Sammar-



One of Edouard's bitterest foes over the years has been Don Leo Jonathan. Here he receives a Carpentier mulekick (above). The graceful flying backflip of Edouard Carpentier has Baron Von Raschke amazed (below).



tino, and Victor Rivera. All these men are easy to work with. You seem to have instant communication with them. Long hard hours of training are not required in these cases.

Q: Recently you've been teaming with young Raymond Rougeau. Why?

A: Raymond is a great wrestler. I predict he will be a world champion one day. I was anxious to team with him because many of his tactics are like mine. He's acrobatic and graceful. I like to help this youngster and give him tips to sharpen him for big future matches.

Q: Why have you been wrestling in tag team matches more and more often?

A: I like them. The fans like them. It's just a passing fancy I guess.

Q: In St. Louis, you recently faced former W.W.W.F. champion Stan Stasiak. Stasiak claimed he had you beaten, but he was cheated by the referee. Any truth in this?

A: Of course not. Stan Stasiak cried the same thing when Bruno Sammartino beat him for the title. His is just one of those guys who can't say he was beaten by an opponent. I respect a man who'll say you bested him. But that's rare if ever in this sport. It's unfortunate.

"BRUNO, GAGNE, BRISCO, AND BUDDY ROGERS WERE ALL MATCHES I CONSIDER CLASSICS"



Q: You've wrestled many champions. Do you rate one as tops?

A: No. They were all great in their own right. Bruno, Gagne, Brisco, and Buddy Rogers were all matches I consider classics. A champion has got to be the best in the business.

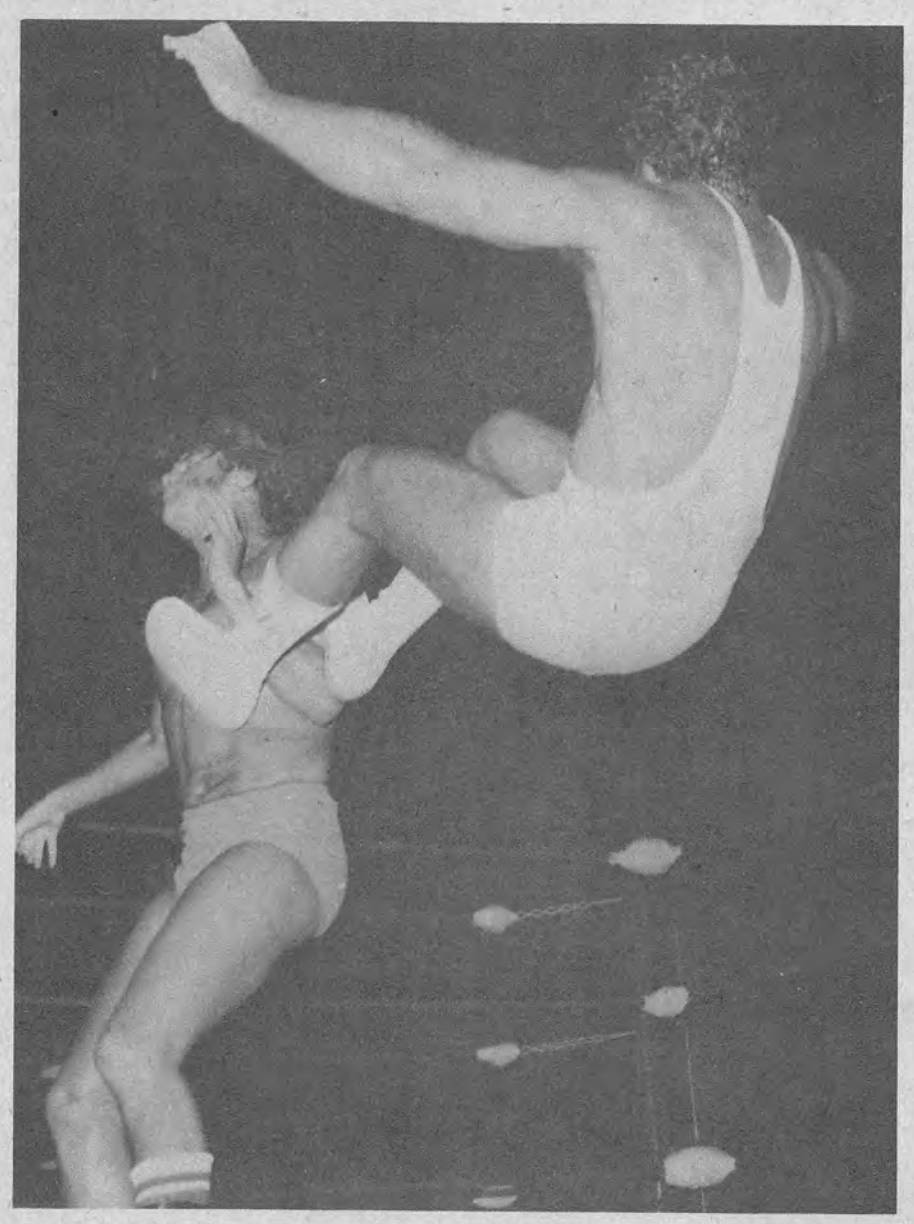
Q: Do you want to hold a world title at this point of your career?

A: I think so. Any man would. It's the height of one's career winning a world title. I just don't know if I'd want the traveling and other responsibilities that come with a title. Maybe at a later date. I don't know.

Q: Edouard, thank you for your time.

A: It was a pleasure speaking with you. □

Robert Fuller and Bob Armstrong are tag team partners and friends. So, when a strange turn of events forced them to face each other in the ring, they knew they had to reach a decision quickly. Would it be friendship or fortune? PHOTOS BY DANNY GODDARD



Forced by a strange turn of events to wrestle his friend and partner Robert Fuller, Bob Armstrong hits him with a perfect flying dropkick.

THE BATTLE ROYAL WHERE OLD FRIENDS BECAME INSTANT ENEMIES

MONEY HAS BEEN known to destroy or create friendships with equal speed. Nothing really matters as long as a profit is shown at the end of the transaction. Some cynics even claim such greed makes the world go round. If that's so, then Bob Armstrong made the world stop spinning for a brief moment.

Armstrong was one of the 35 men who entered the two-ring Atlanta battle royal. This promised to be a fascinating contest due to its complex regulations and unique conclusion.

All 35 men squeezed into a single ring. From there, they had to throw the opponents into the second ring. Those in the second ring had to hurl their opponents to the concrete. Those thrown from both rings would be eliminated. This would continue until two men remained in each ring. The two pairs would then become tag team partners. The winning team would split the $5,000 purse.

Many of those who participated were wary of the possibilities. A lot of enemies were going to be in the arena that night. The thought of having a man they hated as a tag

team partner gave many wrestlers a chill down their spines.

"You've got to trust a tag team partner," Robert Fuller explained before the match. "He's got to be dependable and care more about the team than himself. How man guys are going to risk their necks for someone they hate?

"And how many guys are going to be able to beat up a friend? You've got to forget everything but that prize money. I don't want to hurt my friends to earn a living."

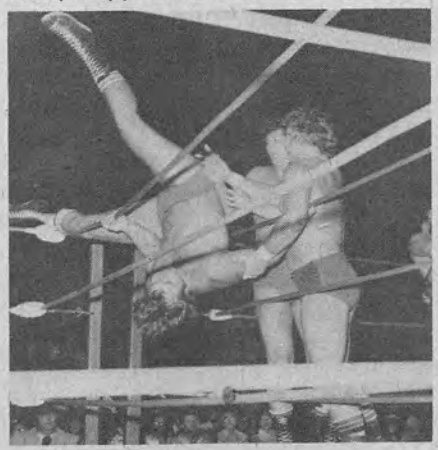
Could Bob Fuller hurt a friend to win a fortune?

"I'm prepared to earn my living as best I can," Bob replied, "and I'll do what I must to earn my living. I'm a professional."

When it was pointed out that his reply didn't really answer the question, Bob admitted, "I don't know what I'll do until it happens . . . if it happens. I'll try to forget who I'm wrestling and just execute to the best of my ability. Part of me hopes I'm professional enough to do that. Another part of me hopes I hold friendship above all else. Maybe I won't have to find out."

The problem also plagued the other 34 men who leaped over the ropes and prepared to wrestle. The problems over conflicting allegiances were unresolved by most as the match began. Like Fuller, each waited to see what would happen.

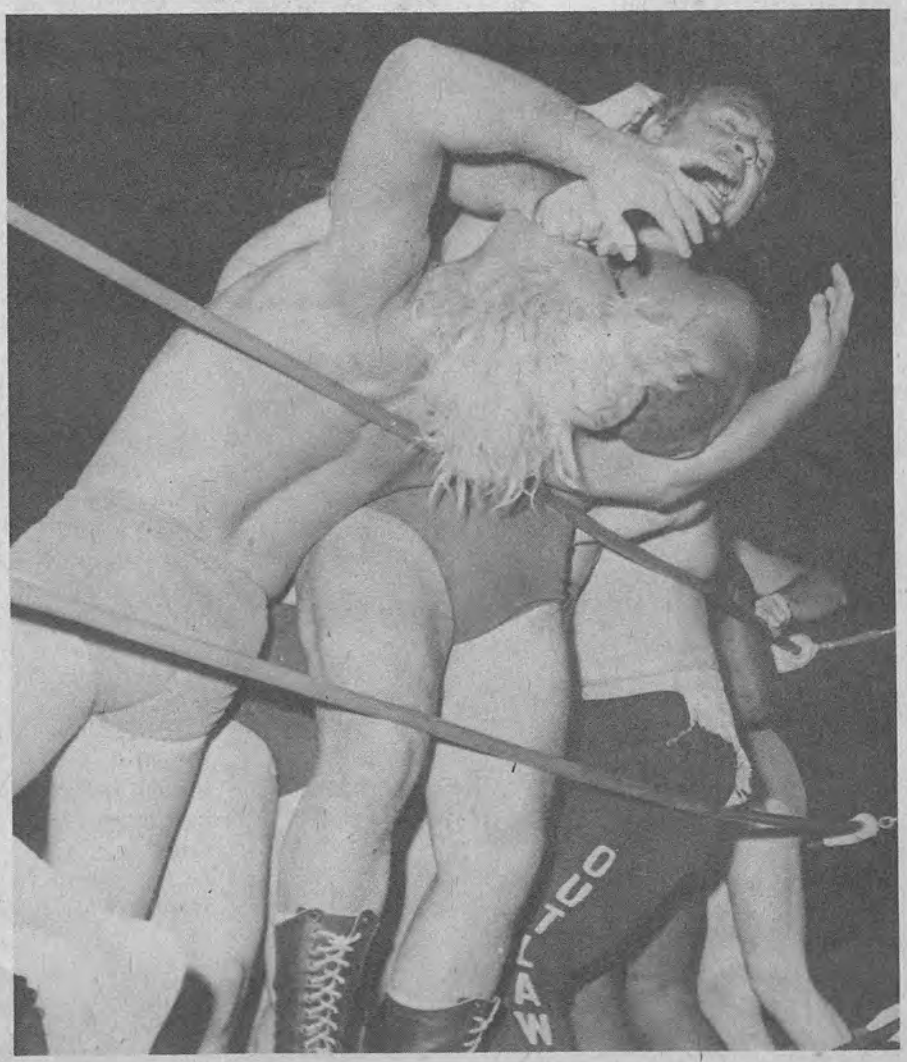
One by the one, the procession of men being hurled into the second ring and then onto the floor began. Body after body crashed to the cement as hopes of earning the fortune crashed with it. However, many appeared almost relieved

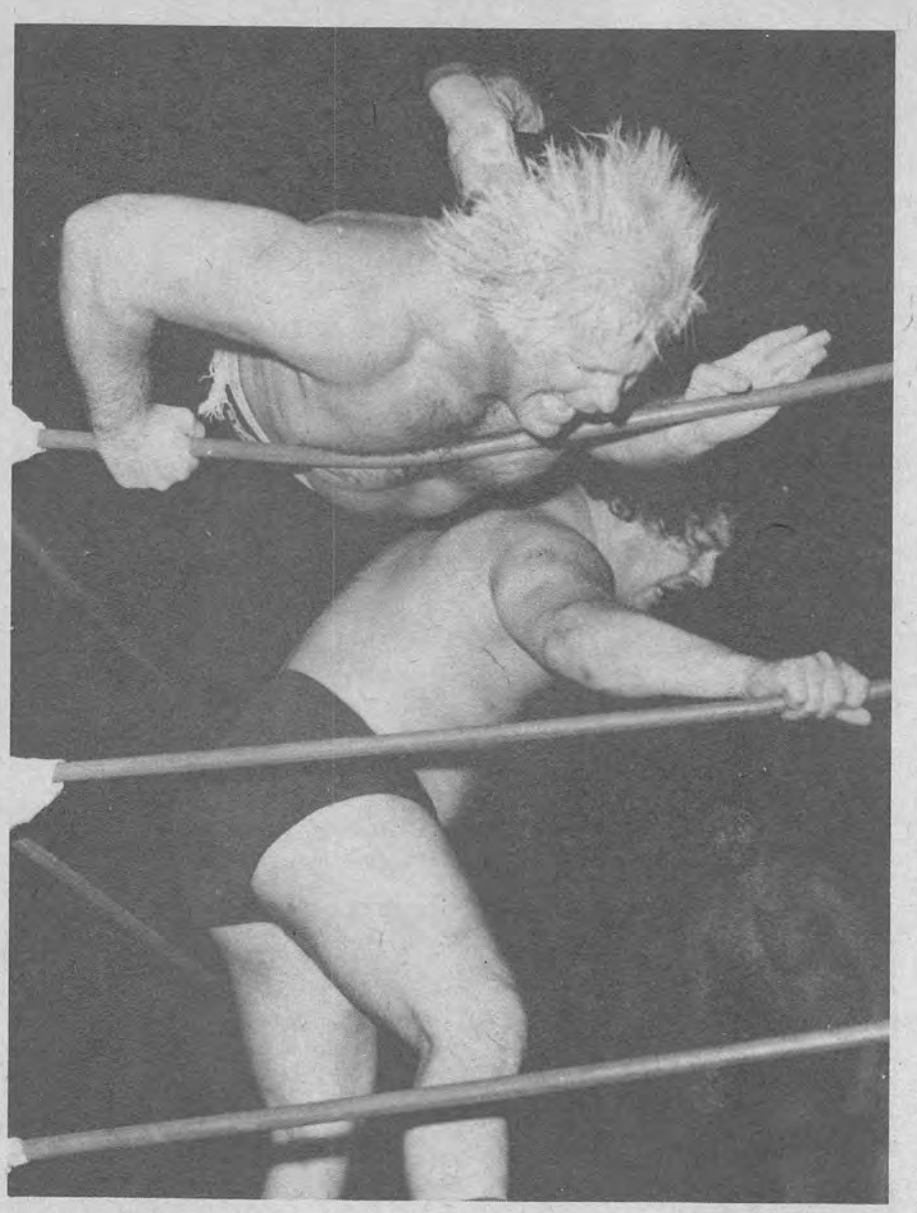


Bob Orton Jr. and Dick Slater work as a perfect team when they eliminate Mike Stallings from the competition (above).



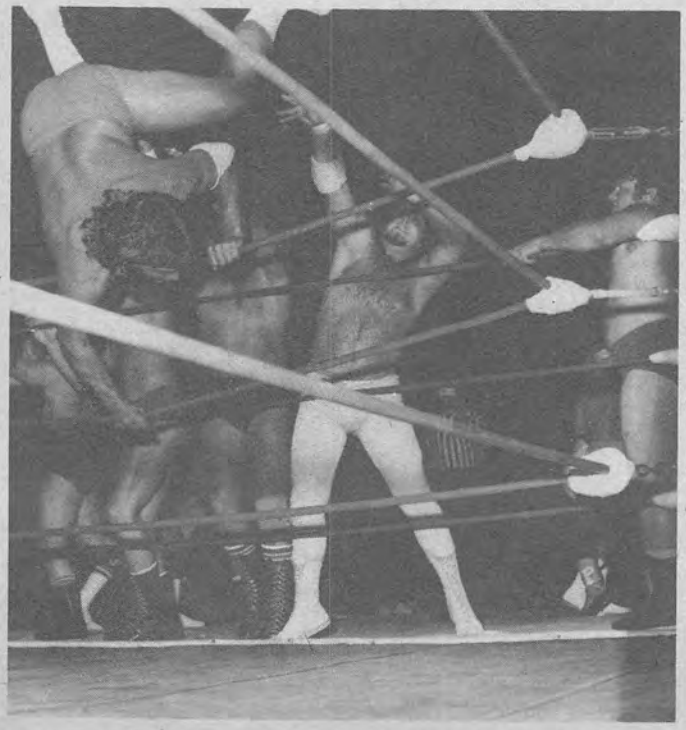
When bitter enemies Jerry Lawler and Bob Armstrong are forced to become partners, there is bitter arguing from the start (above). This is one partnership which didn't last long! In early battle royal action Lorenzo Parente works over big Randy Fargo (below).







A courageous decision by Bob Armstrong saves Robert Fuller. Armstrong slams the man who should be his partner, Jerry Lawler, to protect his friend.



Above: Steve Kovak sends Ray Parker over the top rope and out of action as Bob Orton watches from a safe distance. Left: Jerry Bryant is thrown from ring 1 to ring 2 by Dick Slater and Jerry Lawler.

when they returned to the dressing room.

"I can walk back," Ken Dillinger snarled as he left, "which is more than the losing tag team will be able to do!"

Dillinger reflected a fear every man had. Still, their ingrained competitive drive made them give their best shot at winning the match. Each man struggled desperately to not be eliminated—even if they felt losing quickly would be the best thing that ever happened to them!

Finally, there was a single pair in each ring. But what a mixed-up match-up! The partners in the first ring, Robert Fuller and Dick Slater, had to be forcibly separated by the referee from killing each other! In the second ring, Bob Armstrong glared at his hated nemisis and new tag team partner, Jerry Lawler. Armstrong and Fuller have a deep and lasting friendship—which could be destroyed in a moment's fury if they were forced to confront each other.

(Continued on page 54)

WRESTLING CAPITALS

(Continued from Page 10)

SASKATCHEWAN BATTLES

By Robert Vanstone



Mark Lewin has come back to the U.S.A. and is winning fans all over again with his tough but scientific style of pro wrestling. The fans in Canada are also seeing Mark again after a long time and they too agree that Lewin is one of the top grapplers in the sport's history! Whenever Mark appears, the arenas are sure to be filled.

The Regina Exhibition Auditorium saw 11 great grapplers brawl for a small fortune in the most punishing battle royal in living memory. The men were not only grappling for a check but also for the chance at North American champion King Curtis.

First man to fall was Rick Moreau. Slowly but surely, the others followed. Gama Singh couldn't hold back the tide nor could Alo Lelani. Frankie Laine came close many times to being thrown out before he too finally hit the concrete. Then, with shocking swiftness, Larry Lane, Mark Lewin, Gordon Ivey, and Keith Hart followed.

That left a trio consisting of Prince George, Mr. Hito, and Dan Kroffat. Hito and George have long been the enemies of Kroffat. Showing their experience as tag team partners, they doubleteamed him. It took all of the popular mat star's courage to survive the onslaught.

In a last ditch attempt to snatch victory from the claws of defeat, Dan lunged at Hito and threw him out of the ring. That left a nervous Prince George for Dan to eliminate—and he did just that with a perfect dropkick!

The crowd gave the great grappler a standing ovation for his magnificent exhibition of skill and courage.

In other matches, Mark Lewin teamed with Larry Lane to defeat Prince George and Mr. Hito by disqualification . . . Dan Kroffat used his sleeper hold to finish Frankie Laine . . . Gordon Ivey employed the neckbreaker to upset Gama Singh. □

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AFRAID

(Continued from Page 33)

However, if Don gained the victory—and chances were quite good he might—then the veteran would be reduced to a laughingstock. Many would risk their contender status against gaining nothing.

"I can understand it," Don says, "because we're talking about men's livelihoods. Some would be risking big paydays to meet me. They'd be risking a lot of money which their families could use, especially with the way the economy is nowadays. For many, pride has to take second consideration to their families.

"That's what's so aggravating. There is no one to get angry at, no one to blame. I started rising too quickly for my own good, I guess. I passed all the competition before my reputation could grow sufficiently. I was a contender before anyone realized it. And before it could do me any good!"

So Don found himself out in the cold. It was a situation no one liked but everyone was powerless to prevent.

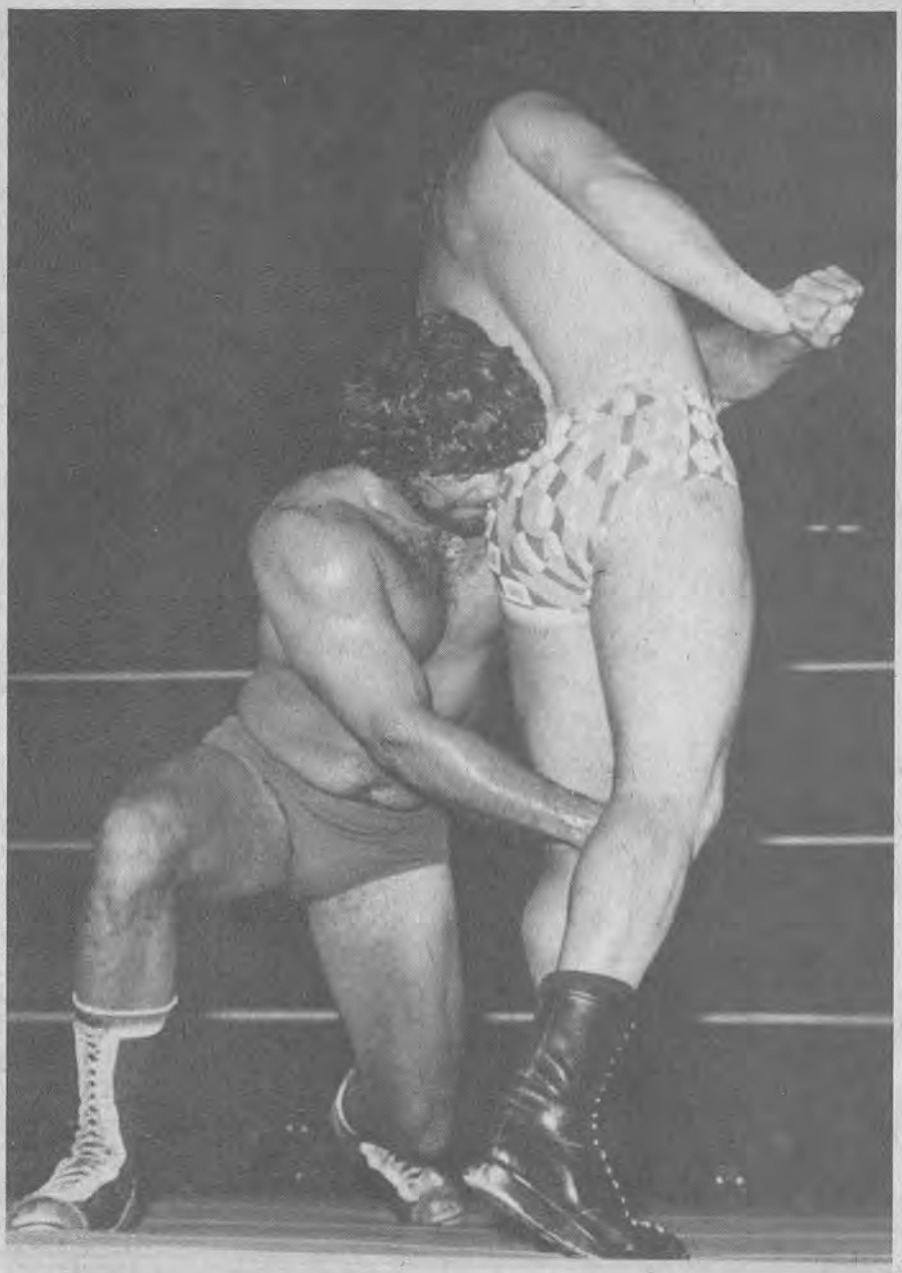
"What kept me going during this time," Don recalls, "is that I realized it was only a temporary thing. Actually, it was a relief to know I was good in the profession I love—too good, in fact. When you're just starting out, you need assurances you've got what it takes. I had too much assurance!

"I was a lot luckier than most. Instead of being insecure, I simply had to solve a problem. Let me tell you, it's a lot easier solving a 'how' problem than an 'if' problem. I had some of the best wrestlers in the world proving to me every day I was good.

"I realized I had to manage my career more intelligently. Use my head outside the arena as well as inside. It forced me to make a very difficult decision, one which I really didn't want to make. But in the end, I realized I had no choice."

Don's decision was to leave the area he loves and travel to the other side of the continent. In Los Angeles he hoped to judiciously choose opponents, build a career in which a man might gain something as well as lose by meeting Don.

Don's repuation for being too good to be "just an opponent" has followed him across the continent. Wrestlers are still shy about meeting him, although this has begun to be less of a problem. Still, many people are saying Don is too good for his own good.



His body glistening with sweat, Don slams his shoulder into the side of Doyle, snapping Mickey's legs out from under him and forcing him to the ground. It's the maneuver of an agile veteran.

"It's just a matter of time," Don hopes, "before my reputation will grow to the point where a man can wrestle me without sacrifice. This is one of the reasons, the main reason actually, why I'm doing this interview. It's a way of forcing men into wrestling me while giving the fans a chance to get to know me better.

"I'm in a very weird position. Every so often, I tell myself that I can't be *that* dangerous. The others have got to be overestimating me. A guy could get on a very destructive ego trip from all this praise everyone's giving me.

"I've just got to keep training, got to keep in fine shape. I've also got to make every match count. I can't afford mistakes. This is probably the most important part of my career."

It's the fans who have helped Don the most through this troubling period of his career.

"Whenever I hear their cheers," Don claims, "or read their fan letter, I realize that there are a lot of people with me, on my side. I know we *all* can't be wrong. I know my time in the sun is just ahead."

Don Muraco's time is coming soon. After all, sooner or later he'll be getting the recognition he deserves. And no wrestler will risk being considered afraid of Don, now that his problem is out in the open. □

SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 12)

Please, Mike, get well! We need you!
SHIRLEY SMITH AND FRIENDS
NEW YORK, N.Y.

THIGHS HAVE IT

After reading "Putski and Igor Are Provin' Confusin' " (INSIDE WRESTLING/September 1975), it seems that you overlooked a difference between the two men.

Ivan Putski's thighs and calves are tremendous in size while Igor's legs are slender.

Also, thanks for including the I.W.A ratings in your magazine.

HARRY SCHOOLS
Philadelphia, Pa.

THE BEST EVER

I've been a fan of Mil Mascaras for a long time and think the article "Mil Mascaras—'The Time Has Come to Tell All!" (INSIDE WRESTLING/September 1975) is the best written article on Mil Mascaras I've ever read.

The pictures were just fantastic. I know all Mil Mascaras fans enjoyed this article very much.

I hope you will print more articles and pictures like this one about other great wrestlers.

HEINZ PFAENDER
Bantam, Conn.

AS BRUNO FAN

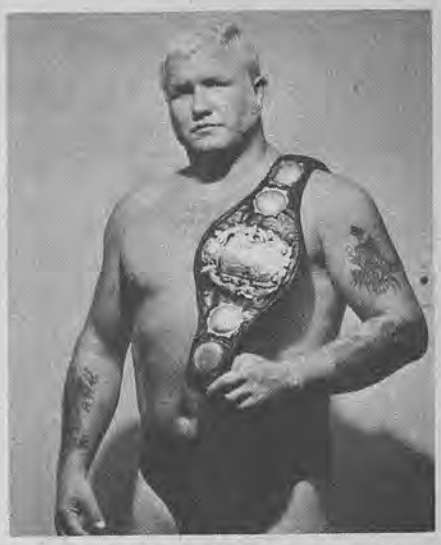
It is time to realize that there is only one wrestler who can really claim the title "world champion"—Bruno Sammartino. Not only is he one of the greatest drawing cards of all time, but this modern folk hero is also one of the strongest and craftiest wrestlers ever!

A look at his record shows the likes of Killer Kowalski, Don Leo Jonathan, and Waldo Von Erich have all been felled by his mighty arms.

With all due respect to Gagne, Brisco, Carpentier, Funk, and Mascaras, do they have the strength, speed, stamina, and savvy that Sammartino has? A combination of those qualities is indeed rare.

I hope if Bruno is wrestling in other areas, the fans will flock to see him like the eastern fans do now. Then the whole world will know why I'm raving about the legendary Bruno Sammartino!

MARTIN NIRSCHEL
Stamford, Conn.



Though Harley Race is no longer the N.W.A. kingpin, he still has many fans who long to see him regain the championship.

SHORT BUT SWEET

Thank you for sticking up for Harley Race ("Did They Write Harley Race Off Too Soon" [THE WRESTLER/July 1975]). I hope you have many more articles on Harley.

He's the greatest!

ALAN SNYDER
Rushville, Ill.

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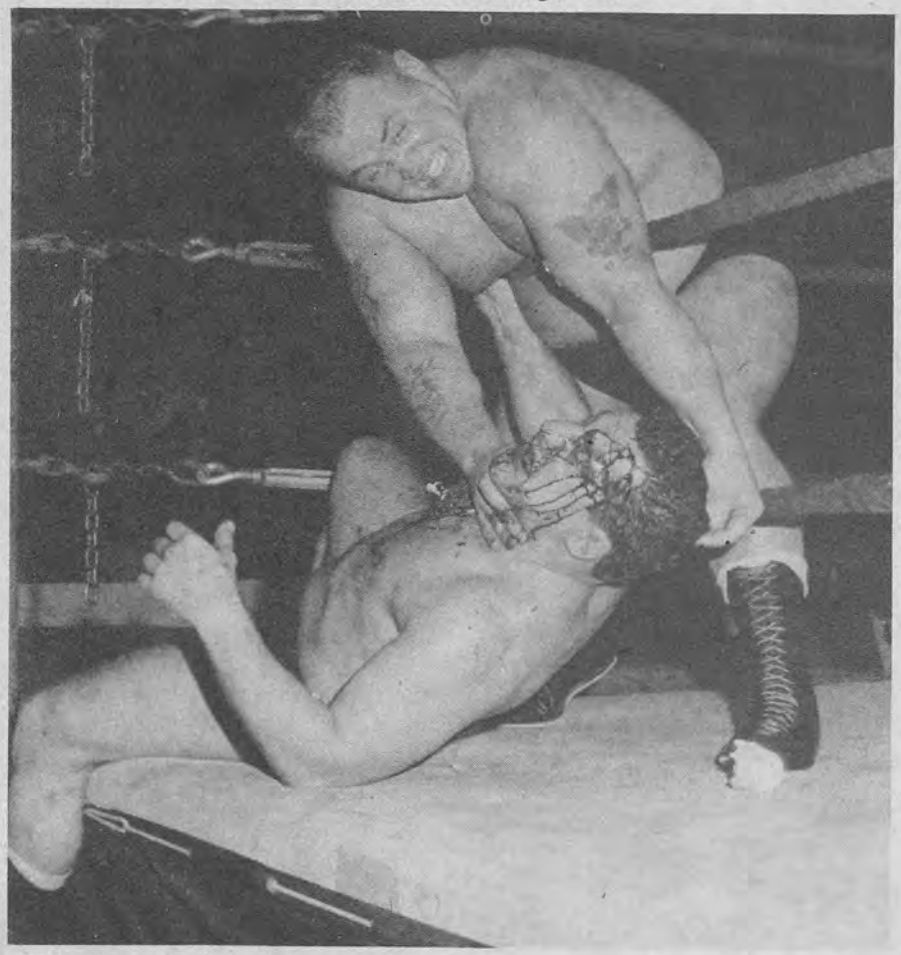
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W-49

BULLDOG

(Continued from Page 24)



Wrestlers who have been reduced to bloody pulps at the hands and teeth of Brower include Jim Hady (above) and Johnny Powers (below), only two of many men!



focus his attention on the belt rather than another human being. However, it he becomes champion, everyone will become his enemy.

Defending his prize, he will lash out at everyone with a ferocity that can only produce tragedy. His opponents will be attacking his very reason for being. He will be battling for his life every time he steps into the arena.

A man as dangerous as Brower can only go totally berserk if he ever finds himself as champion. There is no hope he will not kill the first opponent who seems able to take his title. With his extraordinary power, Bulldog Brower has the physical capabilities to cripple or kill any man alive. If he wins the I.W.A. championship, he'll be unable to control his bloodlust.

Bulldog Brower may be the most dangerous man in wrestling today. He hates everyone and knows only one way of dealing with his enemies. One can't predict exactly what he will do—but one should be terrified of the possibilities. □

I MASSACRED THE MAN

(Continued from Page 25)

Also, he could use this victory to further his reputation.

Race volunteered to travel at his own expense and meet Baba at his earliest convenience. There was no rush—let Baba take his time. Race wanted no excuses or extenuating circumstances to in any way diminish his conquest.

Finally, he was given the match. He went into intensive training, working out at least 10 hours a day. He would then examine films of Baba during his toughest matches. He was leaving nothing to chance. In his desperate mind, this match could again make him champion over all.

All of Tokyo seemed to be crowding into the arena on the night of the match. They had heard of Race's strange quest and wanted to see it end in failure at the hands of their hero.

For more than 45 minutes, the two men battled with cunning ferocity. They were daring without being reckless. These were men determined to win. Yet, they never lost sight of their professionalism.

Finally, the two exhausted grapplers were wrestling on desire alone. Their muscles twitched involuntarily, trying desperately to obey commands from the brain. Then came the end.

Baba stumbled toward Race. The two men crashed together, neither one able to prevent what happened next. As one, they toppled over the ropes. Falling on their backs, it was impossible for either one to recover in time to get back. After this titanic struggle, perhaps the most brutal witnessed in Japan in years, both men were counted out.

That he didn't win didn't stop Race from bragging about the match.

"He was helpless," Race claims, "when he pushed me over the ropes. He had to cheat to avoid losing. Actually, I won anyway! And I won against the man who beat Jack Brisco!"

A battered ego looks for any proof of greatness. Harley Race went halfway round the world to find that proof. Now all he has to do is convince the fans and other wrestlers that his proof is valid. He may even still have to convince himself. □

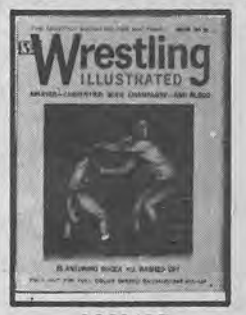
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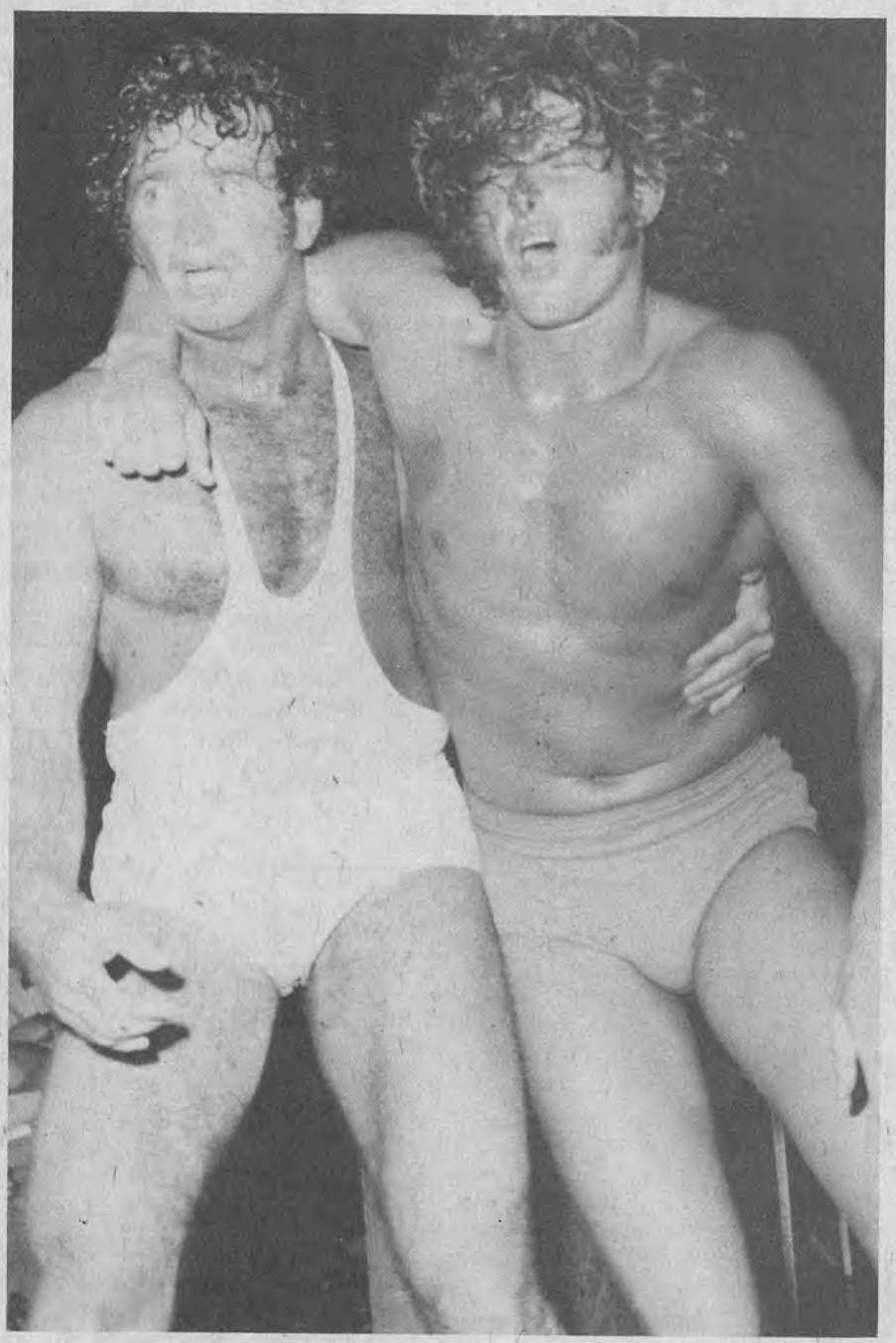
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INSTANT ENEMIES

(Continued from Page 48)



Armstrong's momentous decision to forget about the battle royal cash prize to the winner and help his friend, Robert Fuller, is greeted by a standing ovation as the two men leave the arena.

None of the four relished trusting his partner. As Armstrong and Lawler climbed into the first ring, they were busily shouting threats at each other.

"Just listen to me!" Lawler shouted. Let's have none of your stupidity now. I want the money!"

"Don't worry about me!" Armstrong retorted. "Just make sure you remember who your partner is!"

The first two to wrestle were Armstrong and Fuller. Rather than try to punish each other, they wrestled scientifically. Their abilities were matched by obvious respect for each other.

While the fans appreciated this great exhibition, Lawler fumed. He screamed at Armstrong to tag so they could get the bout over with

and pick up their prize money. Armstrong ignored him, afraid what Lawler would do to his friend.

However, Armstrong stepped too close to the corner and Lawler touched him. Not interested in anything but winning, he started to massacre the stunned Fuller. Armstrong watched with horror as his friend was battered by his partner. Could he stand by and watch Fuller be seriously injured? Was his friend's career worth $2,500?



After Armstrong and Fuller leave, Dick Slater (above) finally wins the battle royal by eliminating Lawler.

Fuller was semi-conscious when Armstrong made his decision. He leaped into the fray, hurling Lawler off the battered and bloody Fuller. He then took the groggy grappler back to the dressing room, forfeiting the money but earning the admiration of everyone in the arena.

Stunned, Lawler watched the two depart. Jerry never saw Dick Slater leap off the top rope. Slater smashed into Lawler and the match was as good as over.

Slater was then able to keep the entire $5,000 check for himself. Lawler kept alive his hatred for Armstrong and Fuller. And Robert and Bob kept alive one of the most remarkable friendships and tag team partnerships in wrestling. □

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CLAWHOLD

(Continued from Page 27)



Dazed and bloody, Dean Ho crawls along the canvas (above). But he can't escape Blackjack Mulligan, who grabs him by the hair and recaptures him in the clawhold (below) late in the struggle.



morons, wanted to believe these two sweet punks were wrestlers. Well, the illusion has been destroyed. Rather than have all their fans admit they were nothing from the start, Garea and Ho decided to fool a whole new group of ignoramuses. I just don't think they're any more stupid down south then they are up north. Sooner or later, and probably sooner, their new fans will realize what bad jokes they are as wrestlers."

"Those crybabies," Mulligan concludes, "are saying they have to leave because of prior commitments. That's almost as silly as saying Garea and Ho are wrestlers!

Tony and Dean are claiming it is prior commitments and not the Blackjacks which is responsible for their journey. They are upset the trip has coincided with their war against the Blackjacks.

"We've tried to change our schedule," Dean says, "but it's impossible. We want to finish this thing against the Blackjacks before we go to a new area. However, the promoters won't let us out of our contracts. And we can't, in good conscience, try to get out of those contracts."

"We're trapped," Tony says glumly. "The Blackjacks can shout their insults to the skies and we're helpless to shut them up. All we can hope is that our fans will let us defend our honor before they draw any conclusions. Neither Dean nor I want to leave now. But we have no choice."

For whatever reason, Tony Garea and Dean Ho are leaving the northeast. And behind them remains two men who are claiming Garea and Ho are running scared. □

ALBERTO MADRILL

(Continued from Page 40)

stated, and this time his eyes were hard with determination. "He beat me tonight, humiliated me in front of my fans. I've got to avenge myself. I can't let Tolos tell the world how he just came in and wiped out the Texas wrestlers. I can't let him come in and tell the world how he wiped out Al Madrill."

His friends tried to argue with him. They told him they had predicted his loss. They also declared al had been far from humiliated. However, they couldn't sway the stubborn young man bent on revenge.

The night of the second match saw the arena filled with worried spectators. They were afraid the wily Tolos would try to finish what he had begun. It was a fear for Madrill's career which united the fans, hoping the brave young man could overcome almost impossible odds.

From the opening moments, Al was a raging dynamo of revenge. All his speed and power were concentrated on Tolos. John retreated to defensive moves for the first few minutes, unsure of how to stop the assault.

When in doubt, John Tolos relies on illegal tactics. What followed was an astonishing display of illegal maneuvers and holds. However, they only served to anger instead of injure. Al battled back with the brawling tactics which would have made any streetfighter run for cover.

The two men waged this savage war for ove 15 minutes. However, this is the way John Tolos likes to wrestle. A master at these kinds of matches, he knew what to do much better than the young athlete he opposed. Al was badly weakened, though not bloody like Tolos. Still, it was Tolos who was awarded the victory.

Like all brave men throughout history, al Madrill took on an opponent against overwhelming odds and the soundest advice. From the evidence of the two matches, it may be very soon when he can proudly raise his arm in victory against the man who has defeated him twice. □

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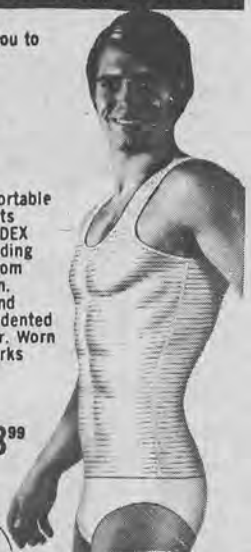
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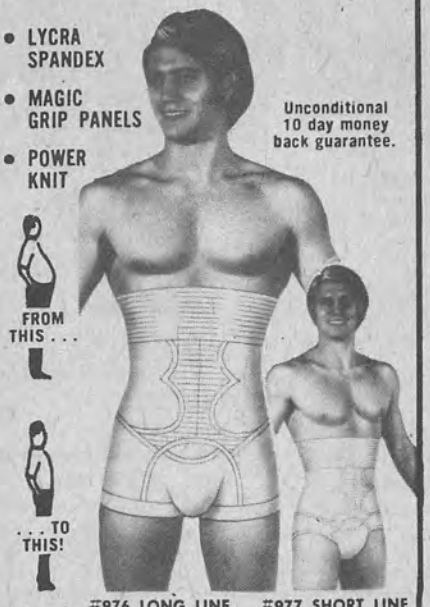
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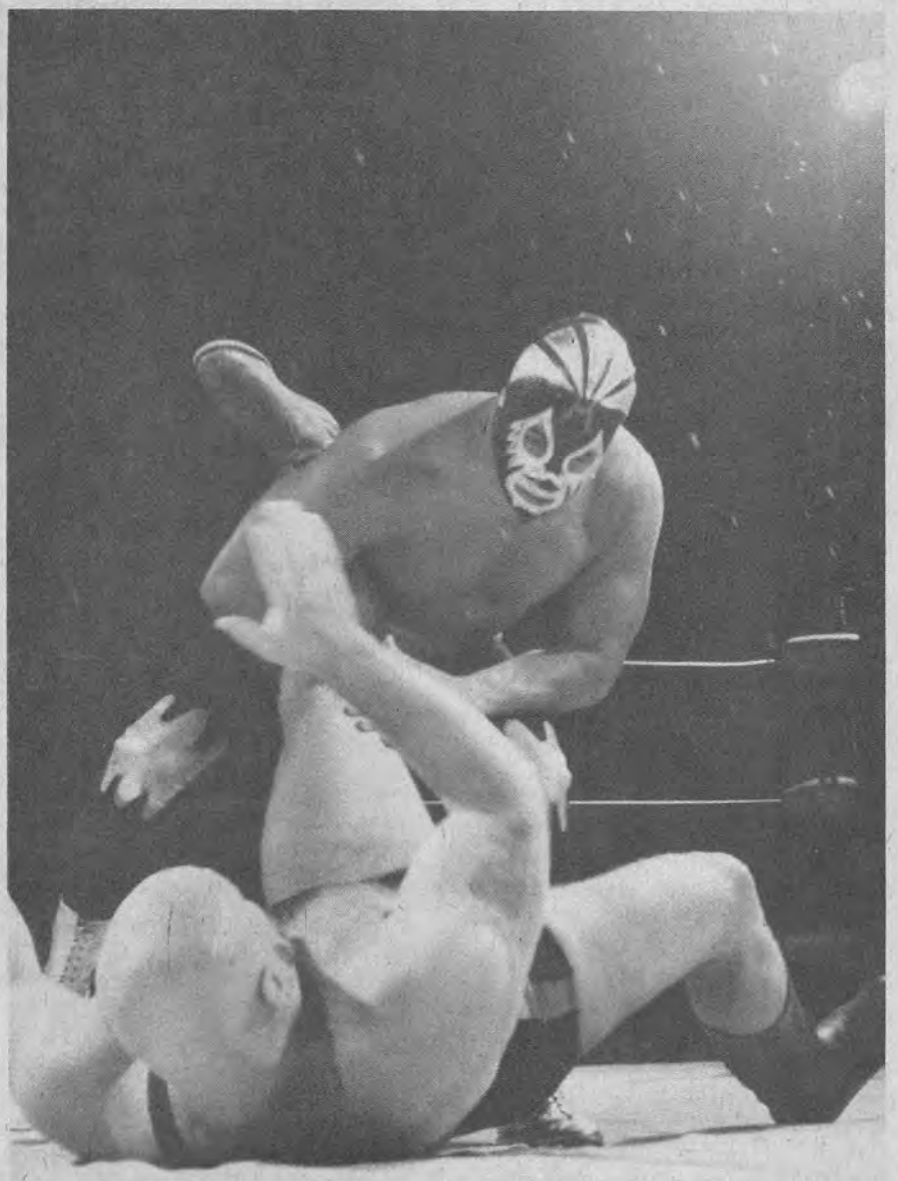
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MIL MASCARAS

(Continued from Page 37)



Mil Mascaras works over the thigh muscles of Koloff. Notice how Mil is shouting at his opponent to "give up!" but Ivan said not a word in reply. Mascaras will not rest until he defeats Ivan.

match was tied.

"I thought I could win the third fall," Mil declared, "even though I was still a little woozy from the beating. I knew a little exercise would drive the pain away. I was confident. Koloff had shown me he was dangerous—but he didn't show me anything new.

"I had been taught not to be overanxious. I was cautious going into the third fall. I was going to take advantage of his mistakes instead of letting him take advantage of mine.

"That's the way I started out. Then I realized he had the same idea. That left me with one of two choices—either continue like this and wait out the time limit or mount an offensive. I decided to mount an offensive.

"It was the right move. I still believe that. It was the execution which was faulty. Also, by that time, I'd taken a lot of punishment and so had Ivan. We were two aching, tired men.

"Anyway, I attacked. For the first few maneuvers I was sure it was going to be successful. It may have lacked the ease of the first fall, but it was getting the job done. And that was all I wanted. I wanted to retain my I.W.A. title by conquering the one man whom I've never defeating."

But it was not to be. As the match wore on, the two men kept battling to a standstill. Neither could gain the final advantage. And then, in one swift motion, the two men tumbled over the ropes.

However, the battling continued. The referee counted, slowly ticking the seconds off before disqualification for both. Koloff almost got back in time only to be pulled back by Mil. He made another attempt, and this time Koloff successfully got back within the squared circle.

"At that point," Mil said sadly, "I thought I'd lost the match. Even if I did retain my belt on a disqualification, a loss by a champion leaves an ugly taste in everyone's mouth. It was the last thing I wanted. I'd rather have lost the belt!



Mascaras continues to apply pressure to the leg bar. But Ivan refused to submit.

"I leaped into the air when I heard that both of us were disqualified. For one brief moment, I was relieved that the most undesirable thing hadn't happened. However, once the relief passed, I had to come to grips with the fact I hadn't beaten Koloff—again. I had failed.

"I wanted the victory for the New York fans. I wanted the victory for me. I wanted victory for the honor of the I.W.A. championship. I failed."

For everyone else that evening, it was a fantastic night of excellent wrestling. The match between Mil Mascaras and Ivan Koloff will be talked about for years for its magnificence. Yet, for one man, this most memorable of evenings was a disaster.

Mil Mascaras left the stadium absorbed in his thoughts, torturing himself by recalling the moments which went wrong. Mil swore to himself they would never go wrong again. □

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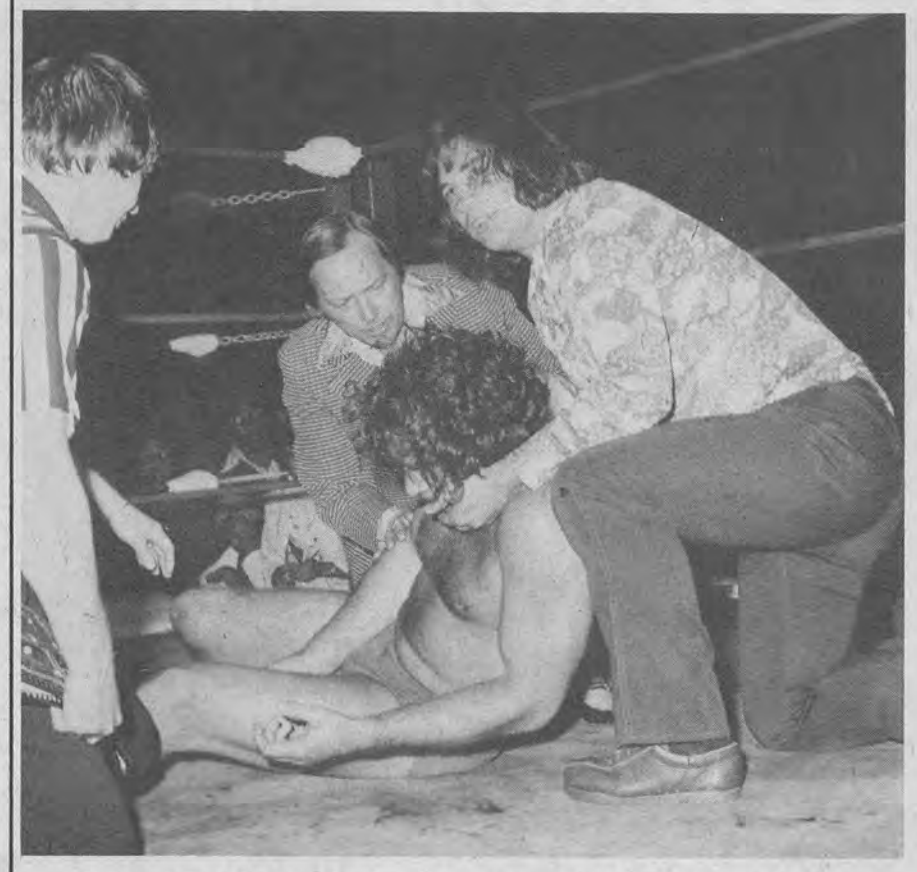
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TITLE SHOT

(Continued from Page 21)



Above: After the match, the champ is aided by his brother, Jerry, and commentator Gordon Solie. Below: Abdullah attacks Jack even before the match begins. It's an omen of the wild action to come.



room. Brisco's rescuers huddled over him until they were certain the champion would be alright.

Later, in the dressing room, Jack talked to reporters about the match and the criticism.

"As the champion," Jack declared, "I've got to defend my title against everyone. Abdullah is a wrestler. I may despise the man, but he has defeated many contenders. He was deserving of a title shot, no matter what others may say.

"You can't keep a man from a title match because his methods are repugnant to you. Being champion means conquering everyone, not just the scientific grapplers.

"If I'd avoided giving him a title shot, he could have justifiably said I was afraid of him. I wouldn't disgrace the championship like that.

"I didn't enjoy this match and I'm ashamed of some of the things I did. But it was a match I felt I had to take."

Jack survived the match and retained his title. However, the controversy over whether the match should have taken place at all still rages. □

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MOOLAH'S TITLE

(Continued from Page 18)



Donna Christenello backflips Sandy Parker during a wild battle. Notice the look of extreme concentration on Donna's face. Once in the squared-circle, Donna becomes an uncontrollable wildcat.

"A good deal of what makes Moolah so great to be around is she's a champion. It's in her bearing, her brain, and her blood. As soon as she enters a room, people sense there's magic, the extraordinary has entered.

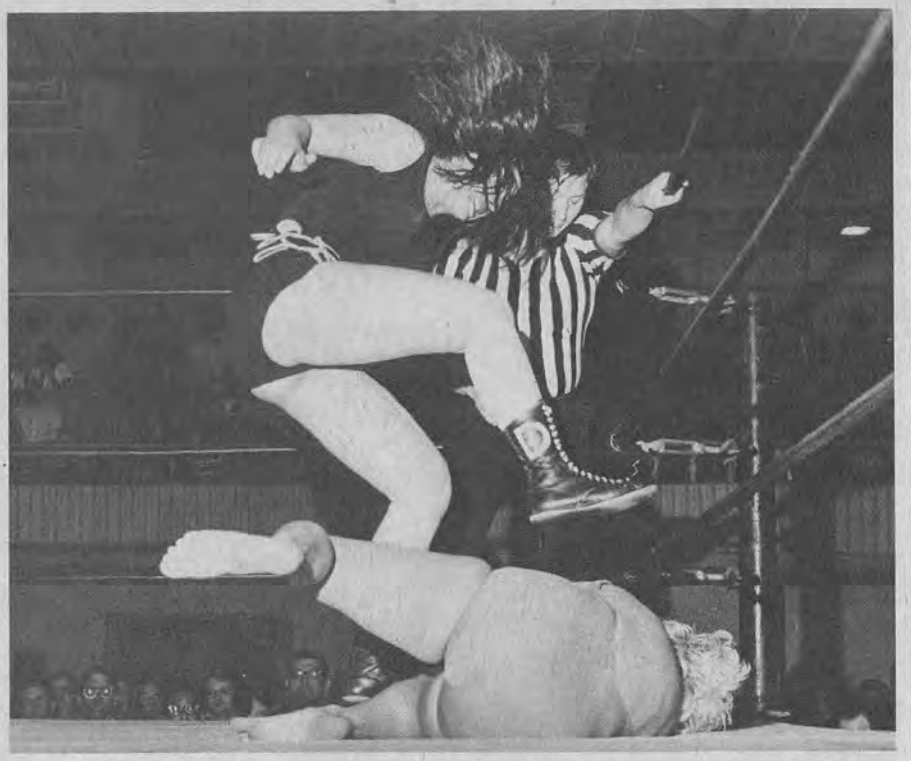
"If I defeated Moolah for the title, it would destroy her. I, and most of the rest of the world, don't need to be champion like Moolah needs to be champion. It's as much a part of her as her legs. I couldn't live with myself doing that to a woman who has been such a good friend."

Though Donna doesn't *need* to be champion, she *wants* to be champ.

"Of course being champion is the reason I became a wrestler in the first place," Donna admits, "and the dream is constantly there. It gets pretty difficult at times to supress the desire to wrestle for the championship. I've more than once pictured myself wearing the title belt."

However, being prevented from reaching the top of her profession is not the most difficult problem of her situation.

"There have been stretches in my career," Donna says, "when I found



Above: Christenello lashes a kick to Vicki Williams body. Donna's "unethical" tactics closely parallel Moolah's. Below: Debbie Johnson, caught in Donna's powerful arms, is about to be slammed.



myself slipping. Because there was no longer the goal of becoming champion, I just stopped trying as hard. It threatened to ruin me as an athlete.

"It took a great deal of concentration to get my skills back to their best. Without a goal, it gets tough to keep yourself sharp. And in this sport, if you're not sharp, you're finished!

"I've had to invent reasons to stay in top condition. Eventually, I realized the only person anyone ever compete against is herself. I don't need a belt to tell me when I've done well and done poorly. When I do my best, I'm successful. When I don't execute properly, I'm unsuccessful. The only real measure, I have is what I know my abilities to be against what I actually do.

"That's how I retain my skill. And that's more important to me than a championship."

Donna is the first to admit she gains a lot by being Moolah's friend.

A little while ago, when Moolah fell ill, Donna substituted for her. It was grueling work taking her heavy schedule, but it was a marathon task which any athlete would welcome. Also, by naming Donna to replace her, Moolah implied that her friend was close to being her equal. It was an honor which Donna deserved.

In the matches, she proved herself to be a ruthless competitor and a brilliant tactician. Opponents who had been foolish enough to think they'd have an easy time with Moolah's substitute had the truth beaten into them.

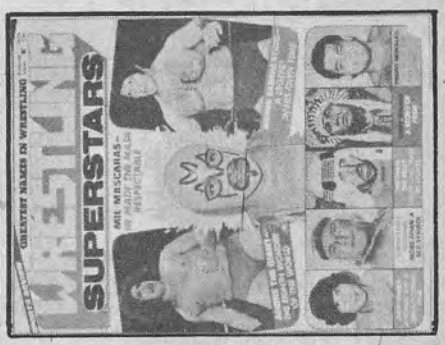
So Donna Christenello continues to prove her greatness. And she continues despite the fact she knows she may never get the chance to be champion. □



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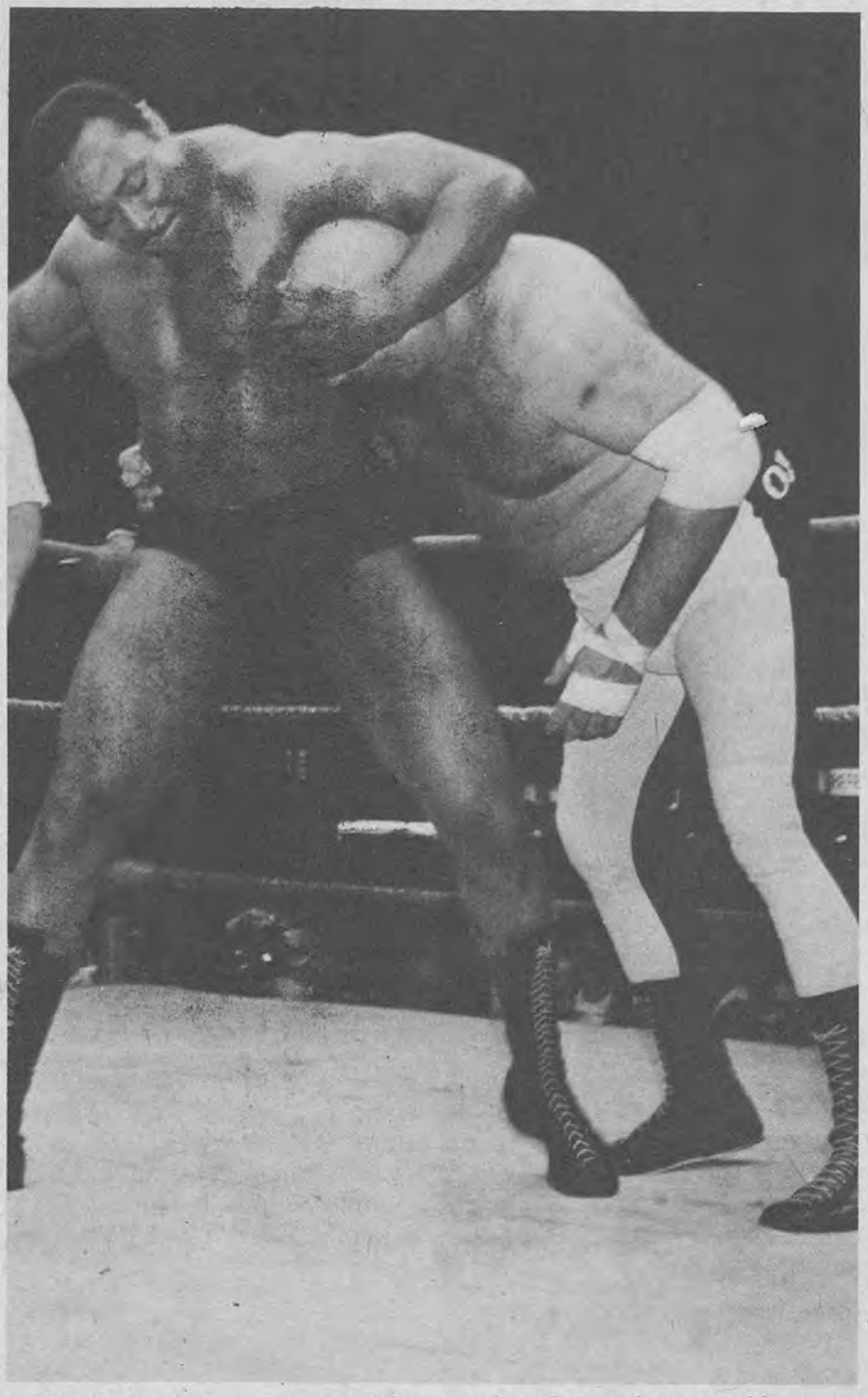
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GR

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SAILOR AND OX

(Continued from Page 41)



Thomas has one arm around Baker and the other ready to rain blows down upon his foe's bald skull. The force of the blow sent Baker spinning across the canvas. While it would have knocked most men senseless, Baker was able to continue with increased brutality!

immediately to his feet and stared across at his opponent.

The two men now glared cautiously at each other. Strengths and weaknesses were known to each now. Cunning and craft would have to implement strength. Brawn would only be one factor in this battle of the titans.

They edged nearer toward each other. Then they crashed together, pulled each other down and rolling across the mat. When they struggled back to their feet, the two waged war against the other's body for an inhuman amount of time. The amount of punishment administered would have crippled anyone save the most su-

perbly conditioned warrior.

Finally, Art captured his foe in an excruciating headlock. Baker's bald head turned scarlet from the pressure. Then Thomas' arms slid down, ensnaring his foe in a bearhug.

Lifted off the ground, Baker struggled like a fish out of water. Still, Art's massive arms held him in check. The look of outrage on Ox's face melted into a stare of fear. The victim's breathing became labored and the struggling grew weaker. Baker's body was being racked by pain. The end seemed only moments away.

Baker knew this as well as anyone. He also knew what a loss would mean to his reputation. He couldn't permit that to happen.

With his last ounce of strength, Baker straightened his body and whipped it forward. His knee came slamming into Thomas' groin. Art released his hold as he crumpled to the canvas. The referee alertly disqualified Ox before he could do further damage to his foe. Thomas lay writhing on the canvas with only his victory to comfort him.



Baker seems to be getting the best of Thomas in a test of strength early in the battle.

Later, in the dressing room, Thomas spoke slowly, still in discomfort.

"I think I proved I'm stronger than Baker," he declared. "We all know he was beaten when he kicked me. It was a desperate move by a coward. I'm sure he's aching plenty right now, too.

"But he isn't getting off that easy. I want him again. Then, he'll learn that you can't cheat your way out of defeat twice!"

Ox Baker may have escaped from Sailor Art Thomas' clutches, but in the process he's made himself a very dangerous enemy! □

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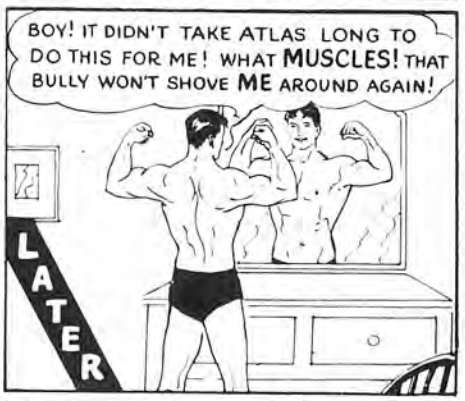
















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